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A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE WARSAW, Ind.

POST OFFICE BY GEO.

A. NYE.

1954-11

PREFACE

It used to be that the post-office was about the only direct connection any place had with the Federal Government. Now it has several connections thru income taxes, federal roads, and in other ways. The postmastership has always been a choice plum to pass out by a political party to some deserving party worker. The job at the present time should no doubt require some knowledge of postal affairs but in the years gone by it seemed that all the training that was necessary was that the person be an active party worker. Orville Kilmer was about the first postmaster to be appointed at Warsaw who had had any training in the service. He had been a city carrier. John Runyan was given the place because of the loss of his limb in the war. He proved to be a good man for the place. Had he never been wounded he might have made a good college professor. The place where the postoffice was to be located was also a matter of political affiliation for if someone of the right political faith had a vacant room for rent public sentiment always swung towards his emolument. Thus we can see that for about 85 years the place of the office swung back and forth from Center Street to South Buffalo and Market Streets. For the early years of the postoffice in Warsaw we have little to draw from. Before the time of Thomas L. Graves in April, 1853 we do not know where the office was kept. He had a store and kept it in the store as was the custom of the times. In this brief history we trace the office from February 11, 1837 when Squire Baker could have carried all the mail for Warsaw in his hat down to the present time when Mr. ~~Bowen~~ Rarick has under his management about 30 employees and the postoffice returns run into the thousands of dollars. It is a far cry from 1837 to 1954 when every farmer in the county has his mail delivered six times a week and when he can order most anything by mail and get it within a few days. The use of airplanes has greatly expedited the service.

Back Jan 31-1979

PREFACE

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List of postmasters to date. November, 1954.

	Term		President
1. Jacob Baker	2-11-37 to	10-19-41	Under Jackson & VanBuren
2. George W. Stacy	10-19-41 to	7-16-42	Harrison Wm. Henry
3. Wm. C. Graves	7-16-42	6-2-45	Tyler
4. Silas V. Miller	6-2-45	7-31-45	Polk
5. Ern N. Vandermark	7-31-45	4-23-49	Polk
6. Harvey W. Upson	4-23-49	2-23-53	Taylor & Fillmore
7. George W. Scott	2-23-53	4-30-53	Pierce
8. Thomas L. Graves	4-30-53	7-11-55	Pierce
9. William C. Gordon	7-11-55	8-20-60	Buchanan
10. Theodore W. Strain	8-20-60	3-29-61	Buchanan
11. Peter L. Runyan	3-29-61	11-2-66	Lincoln
12. Andrew Gerow Wood	11-2- 66	3-9-67	Johnson
13. John N. Runyan	3-9-67	8-2-86	Johnson Grant & Hays Garfield & Arthur
14. William H. Bowser	8-2-86	11-12-89	Cleveland
15. George W. Bennett	11-12-89	10-6- 93	Harrison
16. William D. Alleman	10-6-93	10-22-97	Cleveland
17. Charles B. Bentley	10-22-97	2-27-06	McKinley + TR
18. Robert J. Nelson	2-27-06	4-29-10	~~Taft~~ TR
19. Eugene Alleman	4-29-10	5-4-14	~~Teddy Roosevelt~~ Taft
20. Lucius C. Mann	5-4-14	1-30-23	Woodrow Wilson
21. Orville B. Kilmer	1-30-23	3-19-35	Harding-Coolidge-Hoover
22. Charles Anglin	3-19-35	7-7-39	Franklin D. Roosevelt
23. Roy Bowen	7-7-39	4-1-54	Harry Truman (Bowen began 8-1-39)
24. Frank O. Rarick	4-1-54	? 4-30-1968	Dwight Eisenhour to 1961 + Kennedy 1961 - + Johnson

John Runyan 19years 4 mo and 23 days
Kilmer 12 1 19 days are two longest in office

John Butler Chapman was appointed postmaster under Jackson but we do not know what the setup was. This was before this county was organized. He was a personal friend of Jackson or at least claimed to be. Frank McConnel said Chapman used to wear a uniform of the War of 1812.

HISTORY OF THE WARSAW POSTOFFICE

1837-1841

In 1931 we recieved a letter from Arch Coleman who was then First Assistant Postmaster General and he gave us a list of all the postmasters who had served in Warsaw up to that time. First on the list is the name of Jacob Baker. He was appointed February 11, 1837 when Warsaw was just a cluster of a few cabins. Alfred Wilcox came here at that time and he said there were seven families here in 1837. What town there was was located around the corner where the Christian Science church is now at Detroit and Main Streets. Squire Baker notaried many of our early deeds. It was at this corner that our first hotel was located and it was later called the shot tower because of its likeness to this kind of a tower. VanBuren was president during the time that Baker served as postmaster. We know little about Baker. He might have had the postoffice at the hotel or at his residence. It is likely that at this time he could have carried all the Warsaw mail in his hat. Warsaw was not a popular new town at this time. In 1838-9 an epidemic of sickness struck the place and many people died. Wilcox has an article about this in one of the old Indianians. Ludlow Nye who survived the epidemic once said that in 1839 there were only three industrious men in Warsaw and they were considering going on west! It would be interesting to know more about the place in these early years. Oswego, Monoquet and Leesburg were all trying to be the county seat of the new County and were trying to have some sections clipped off of the south part of the county so that Warsaw would not be the center. The Clippers and AntiClippers figured in the campaign of 1840. Peter L. Runyan, a future postmaster in Warsaw, was an anti-clipper. Nye and others went on horseback to Indianapolis to lobby for Warsaw.

1841-1845

In these years the fate of Warsaw, Chapman's new town south of the river, hung in the balance. It was called Redbrush in derision and many prominent merchants of Oswego, Leesburg and Monoquet had no good word for the place. The Indians around Monoquet and Oswego were taken west in ~~1839~~ (?) 1840s. There was no paper published in the county and so we have no record of the happenings. Reub Williams came here in 1845 as a mere lad and they lived on Buffalo street just south ~~north~~ of the present Lake City Bank. He said there was a pond in front of his house and that the kids would skate over to the sign post in front of the Wright House on the northeast corner of Buffalo and Center streets. He also said there was a pond in front of Squire Miller's store.x Monoquet prospered from 1843 to '53 and our first paper was published there in 1846 by Murray Brothers. October 19, 1841 Dr. Geo. W. Stacy was appointed postmaster at Warsaw and he held the office until the following July. Judge James H. Carpenter knew Stacy and once wrote of him as follows: "Dr. George W. Stacy came here from Wayne County, Ohio very early. He was a most peculiar man, speaking but seldom and that but little above a whisper. He had a good knowledge of medicine but was the most bigoted physician I ever knew. I do not think he would ever have advanced an inch had he lived to be one hundred years old. He imagined that the medical profession had in his day reached perfection. As a citizen he was upright and much respected. For a long time he was school commissioner. He moved to Iowa in 1854.". John Tyler was president at this time. Tyler was a democrat and Stacy might have been a Whig for in July 16, 1842 William C. Graves, a democrat was appointed to take his place. Graves was a native of Virginia who had come to Goshen before this county was founded. There he was deputy county clerk for Thomas Thomas. Later Graves taught our first school. It was at Leesburg. He was a good writer. In 1840 he was elected Clerk of this County when the courthouse was a frame building

x Spot unknown but likely South of courthouse on Center W of alley. Geo Orr said [illegible] building here were on stilts.

1841-1845.

at the northeast corner of Indiana and Center Streets. It is likely that he had the postoffice in connection with his office at the courthous Graves later became one of our merchants. He helped to found the old First National Bank and served in the State Legislature. Graves was a democrat. On June 2, 1845 he turned the office over to Silas V. Miller known as Squire Miller. During Graves time Warsaw grew and in 1843 the village contained two hundred people. About the time that Miller took over Warsaw was erecting a courthouse on the public square. It was a two story frame building costing $4200.00. In 1849 a brick jail was built on the southwest corner of the square. Miller was postmaster only until July 31, 1845 when Ern N. Vandermark became postmaster. Polk was now President. Unfortunately we do not know anything about Vandermark. He served until April 23rd 1849. During his term the Mexican War was in progress. Boyswent from Warsaw in wagons to Peru where they could board a train for Indianapolis. The wagons left from in front of the Shot Tower Warsaw had a paper during these years known as the Kosciusko Republican. It was moved in from Monoquet by Bair & Runyan in 1846 and published in a frame building at the southwest corner of Market and Buffalo streets. Warsaw was beginning to be a busy trading center but it still lacked a flour mill and merchants were at a disadvantage in shipping because there was no railroad. It was during these days that the town became more or less whig for whenever any newcomers came and they were found to be democrats the villagers told them this was a very sickly place and that they had better move on west. Unfortunately we have no files of the old Republican and so we have no record of the town's history during these stirring days of the 1840's. It is likely that some people went from here to the big meeting at Battle Ground down by Lafayette in the Hard Cider and Log Cabin Campaign of 1840.

1849 - 1857.

James K. Polk served as President four years and then ~~thruned~~ turned the office over to Zacahry Taylor who had distinguished himself in the war with Mexico. April 23rd 1849 Harvey W. Upson was appointed postmaster at Warsaw. He served until February 23, 1853. Upson was a tailor and a good singer. He may have had the postoffice in connection with his tailor shop. He became county recorder in 1854 and held this place until 1862. Later he was one of the firm of Chipman Bros. and Co. who had a store in the new Phoenix Block on South Buffalo Street. During these years that Upson was postmaster Warsaw was a growing town. Amos Kist came to town in 1851 and he said when he arrived there were 150 people here and less than 40 voters. There were enough people here in 1850 to be taken in the census of that year and this list is published in Coplen's History of the county to 1875. Frame building were being built on our main streets and a few brick business rooms. The first brick room was on the southwest corner of Center and Market built by Moon & Cosgrove in 1849. Then in 1853-4 a brick room was built east of this by Billy Graves. He had a store here for a short time and then sold it to Billy Williams. Some few years later 1862 the Cosgrove Brick room was built to the south and in 1857 George R. Thralls built a brick room south of the court house. This is now the Interstate building. In 1857 a much needed grist mill was built west of the courthouse by Col. C.W.Chapman and about the same time Heller & Gallentine built a grist mill on Union Street at the railroad. The next postmaster for Warsaw was* George W. Scott who took office February 23rd 1853 and held it only a short time. Scott became sheriff and on April 30th 1853 he turned the office over to Thomas L. Graves, a democrat Graves had a general store opposite Pelton's Exchange, a hotel on Center Street on the north side of the street and west of Indiana street just east of the alley. During these years Franklin Pierce was president. The slavery question was a national issue and Harriett Beecher Stowe's Uncle Tom's Cabin

* Brother of Nathan Scott, rector St Andrews Episcopal Ch. and teacher at Carroll Seminary.

was doing much to excite the minds of the people of the North. The workings of the fugitive slave law was another unpopular theme in the north and the underground railroad was at work. It is said that the home of Robert Cowan in Warsaw was a station and also the home of Henry Kelly near Monoquet. It is likely that the postoffice in Warsaw was at the Graves Store during these years from 1853 to 1855, however, it was about this time in the century that the postoffice was at the drug store of Thralls and Pottenger which store was east of the courthouse square until 1857 when it was moved into Thrall's new brick room. July 11, 1855 William C. Gordon Was made postmaster. He served under Buchanan. The whigs had gone thru their first campaign. ~~with~~ Freemont and Dayton was their ticket but Buchanan won. Freemont was popular as a western explorer. It was an interesting campaign in this county and in many communities Freemont poles were raised to a great height by the Republicans and buck horns were displayed by the Democrats. In 1856 at the call of some prominent republicans the Northern Indianian was started by Williams and Fairbrother. It was a live, paper advocating the principals of the newly formed Republican Party. Gordon was a business man with a store ~~sort~~ south of the Moon & Cosgrove room on Buffalo street. He was grandfather of the late Gord Rutter and a brother of S. C. Gordon who with Sam Loney ran the Crystal Palace Store opposite Popham's Exchange on Center Street. S. C. Gordon was deputy surveyor under G. R. Thralls. John Gordon was founder of the Christian Church in town and used to live at the southeast corner of Washington and Main Streets. Stamps first came into use under Gordon. Before this time letters were prepaid when mailed. We have seen old letters that were mailed without any envelope. ~~When~~ Before Lincoln became president Gordon was dismissed as postmaster and Dr. Theodore W. ~~Str~~ Strain was given the place. His office was east of the public square.

In 1857 Strain was in business being in charge of the Crystal Palace founded by Loney and Gordon, Dick and Rig, as they were called. Strain was a democrat and when Lincoln became president he was removed. We know little about Strain and have found no records that give us any information on this line.

In the early 1850's Warsaw was still cut off from the outside world. The farmers had to haul their produce by wagon and drive their livestock to market. By consulting the tract books in the Auditors office for this period we find that good lots in town went for 10 and 20 dollars and Webb Nye said that a person might be given a lot for cleaning off ~~fet~~ the brush on the one next to it. On May 5, 1852 Dr. John K. Leedy bought of William Williams the lot at the northwest corner of Lake and Market where the postoffice is now for $55.00 which probably included Staplefords old log cabin grocery. He bought the lot west of this for $10.00. The lot where the Bilby funer home is now was listed at $20.00. About 1856 the prices went up due to the coming of the railroad connecting Ft. Wayne and Chicago. Lots in the early 50's were sometimes sold in groups. John Bybee sold to Abigail Alexander Lots 416 to 423 and 447 to 456 for about 10 dollars each. They now lie west and northwest of the High School. Some of the names found in these old tract books are Washington Lightfoot, Rezin Winship, A. T. S. Kist, PResley G. Frary, John Gordon, Presley Boydston, George W. Fairbrother, E. R. Wright, Caleb Hendee, Billy Williams, Charles W. Chapman, Jack Power, Reub Williams Sr. Samuel H. Chipman, Samuel B. Clark, John Millice, William Cosgrove, and Peter L. Runyan. Several of these were business men about the town. The commissioners in 1850 were George Weaver, Noah Rodebush, and James Woodden and by 1856 the board consisted of Nelson Baker E. Horton of Leesburg and James Woodden of Harrison Township. Their work consisted mostl of considering roads. Viewers would be appointed to view and survey a road and make thei report. G. R. Thralls, the surveyor, was allowed $1.75 a day, chainmen and rodmen were paid about $1.00 a day. Alfred Wilcox was then auditor and D.R.Pershing was his deputy. Pershing was an uncle of General Pershing of World War I. Hezekiah Bowen was paid $1.50 for two cords of wood for the coutthouse. Cosgrove and Morris recieved $2.50 for clothin used for burying a poor person. Coffins came at $1.00 a foot. G. R. Thralls had a drug store and was allowed $1.75 for candle snuffers and candles for the courthouse. A small brick building houses the treasurer, the auditor and the recorder and the records note that the roof was falling in and was badly in need of repair. They built another buildi

John R. Nye was allowed $6.00 for whitewashing the inside of the old brick jail. (1747)

DURING THE CIVIL WAR

On March 29th 1861 Peter L. Runyan* became the new postmaster. The town had now grown to about 1500 people and the postoffice was a large enough business to be divorced from doctors' offices and drug stores and have a room of its own. The room selected was a one story frame store room on south Buffalo Street a little south of the SE cor of Market and Buffalo. In later years it became Perry Brown's meat market and when it was torn down they found that tamarack poles had been used as stringers in the floor. Runyan was a man 55 years old in 1861 having come to this part of the country in the early 1830's. He was born in 1806 in Greene County, Ohio. In 1831 he came west to Indiana the trip taking 25 days. They settled around Goshen. The Black Hawk War aroused many settlers at this time and some left for the East but Runyan stayed. From 1832 to 1836 he was justice of the peace. In 1834 he came to Milford and two years later to Leesburg. Here with Thomas Thomas he had a store and was appointed deputy sheriff. In 1839 he came to Warsaw and was proprietor of the Losier Hotel on the southwest corner of Lake and Center streets. In 1840 when the clipping and anti-clipping contest was on he was sent to the State Legislature as an anti. He became commissioner of the three per cent fund made possible by the sale of lands. These funds were spent on roads and bridges. He supervised the building of many roads from 1837 to 1841. From 1843 to 1849 he was what they called the County Agent and as such supervised the building of a courthouse and jail. They were the first substantial buildings to be erected on the public square. A log jail stood on the north part of the ~~plat~~ square. From 1849 to 1853 Runyan was in business and in 1853 he obtained the contract for hauling the mail over his hack lines to Peru, Rochester, Plymouth and Goshen. In 1857 to 1861 he had a sawmill on the west bank of Center Lake* and was in business in the Union Block a frame building south of the courthouse. This burned in 1860 and left the old gentleman penniless. So the postoffice position came to him as a glad surprise. Runyan was a devout member of the M.E. church.

* Father of Ed Runyan

THE TOWN IN 1861

During the Civil War there were no brick buildings on Buffalo Street south of Market. On the corner north of the postoffice John Lane had a jewelry store and south of it was a dwelling house. East across the alley from this corner was the home of Billy Williams and his mother and some large pine trees grew here. The opera house now covers this site. East of Lanes was a dwelling house. South of the postoffice the Pierce Hotel stood just north of the alley and south of it a frame store room and on south the Aborn house north of the railroad. Across from Aborns lived Andrew Nye and north of him was the old Gilbert house. On north across the alley stood some frame rooms and on the corner at Market was the old Republican building. The Phoenix Block was built during the Civil War. The first depot for the railroad stood south of the tracks on the west side of Buffalo street. During this time 1863 to 1864 the Empire Block was built from Market street north to the alley on the west side of the street. It was ~~two~~ 3 stories high and had rooms for six stores. Upstairs at the north end was William's Hall which was a popular place for entertainments. It was Warsaw's first hall outside of the court room. This block burned in 1871. In 1854 Warsaw had become incorporated as a town. There was now a town board, town clerk and treasurer. Warsaw at this time had two frame hotels, the Wright House and Pelton's Exchange, both on Center Street. To guard against fires a pumper had been secured and some cistern built. In case of a fire, bucket brigades were formed and men manned the pumper. The Wright House burned in 1867 and the Union Block about 1860. The Union Block was our first big fire. The building was owned by Col. Chapman and the fire was caused by the servant girl Betsy Dineen putting some hot ashes in a tobacco cady. During the fire a keg of powder exploded. Unfortunately we have no pictures of Warsaw during these years. The log cabin store of Pope or Stapleford on the present postoffice corner was torn down in 1860 and Reub Williams gives the razing quite a write-up.

A. G. Wood 1866 - 1867.

Andrew Gerow Wood was born in Marysville, Ohio in 1835. His father was a doctor and of Irish ancestry. His father's partner in medicine was Dr. Andrew Gerow. Shortly before the Civil War broke out A.G. took up the study of law at Marysville with P.B.Cole the father-in-law of Charles W. Fairbanks. Wood distinguished himself in the war and rose to the rank of Captain. November 8, 1865 he located in Warsaw. He became a member of the city council and at one time was mayor. November 2, 1866 he was appointed postmaster when Johnson was president. The move was not popular with the returned veterans for Wood was a democrat and the postmastership was too big a plum not to be in the hands of the republicans. Politics were radical in Warsaw after the war and Cleveland was the first democrat president that followed Buchanan unless we admit Johnson to the ranks of democracy. It is said that congress would not ratify Wood's appointment and March 9, 1867 John Runyan became postmaster. Wood continued in his law office and later took F.E.Bowser in as a partner. The firm Wood and Bowser had offices in the Moon Block. We are not certain where the postoffice was kept under Wood but have read of its being on west Center near Lake street. It was at this time that the first Wright House burned down and was replaced by a four story brick building with the hotel in the top stories. This was at the northeast corner of Center and Buffalo. It burned in 1883. In 1868 the Moon Block (Bowser Block) was built and it was quite an addition to our town. In 1870 a new jail was built where Ben Richart had lived and the old brick jail on the public square was torn down. Cisney was the sheriff. In 1869 the Northern Indianian was in the Phoenix Building run by H. C. Rippey and it had gotten down to rather a low ebb as a Republican paper. Reub Williams soon took charge of it again and revived eh old pep that it had befor he had to leave it and go to war as one of the first three to volunteer. The north and south railroad was being built in 1869-70 and it was a very good thing for the town.

John N. Runyan

John Runyan was born in Warsaw April 26th, 1846. He was the son of Peter L. Runyan and Mary Ervin Runyan. His boyhood days were spent in Warsaw attending school at the old Union School built in 1858 on Detroit Street at Market. When the war broke out Johnny was 15½ years old and he wanted to go. To overcome his being too short he padded his shoes and wit the consent of his parents he enlisted. He was mustered out in 1862 but joined up again and in 1863-4 he was sent home to recruit new men for the army. In 1864 he was in the Atlanta campaign. On June 15th 1864 he was in the battle of Kenesaw Mountain, Georgia and after his outfit had made a dashing charge and dislodged the enemy Lieut. Runyan was struck in the right knee with a rebel minie ball. That same evening his leg was amputated at a hospital near "Big Shanty". Resorting to strategy to get to where he could be cared for in due time he arrived at the officers' hospital at Nashville, Tennessee. Here he telegraphed his father who came afte him and he was taken home via Cincinnati. John Runyan was a boy who alway wanted an education. He entered a college at Ft. Wayne but after six mont his wound became so troublesome that he had to return home. Later he entered Wesleyan College at Delaware, Ohio. Soon after he was appointed postmaster at Warsaw. He perhaps knew something about the duties of the office because his father had been postmaster during the war. In 1876 he had to have another operation on his limb. During his spare time Jno. Runyan studi law and he started a reading room in the Phoenix Block since he recognize the need of one in the growing town of Warsaw. Runyan was one of the company that erected the opera house block in 1874 and one of the founders o the Woolen Mills on North Detroit Street. He, of course, was a member of the G.A.R. and rode to the cemetery with the speaker and other celebritie on Decoration Day. He died Christmas morning, 1924.

23-13

Around . . .

Our Town And County

Warsaw, in 1875. 1950

GEORGE NYE, Our County surveyor and historian, provides our column for today. He writes: Seventy-five years ago Warsaw was a town of perhaps 2,500 people. The streets were good or bad depending on the weather. In the spring of the year farm wagons would sometimes mire in nearly to the hub even on our main streets. In the summertime our streets were dusty and the sprinkling wagon would make the rounds of the uptown district trying in some measure to help the situation. Most of the business rooms were still frame structures and every time a fire would break out the whole town was endangered for we were still depending on fire cisterns for protection. There were few factories in town and the biggest industry was dependent on our forests. Much wood was sawed at the several sawmills about town. In the wintertime the ice harvest gave work to a crew of men for several weeks. Some men worked on the railroads.

Women Stayed at Home.

Very few women worked outside of their home. Those that did worked at dressmaking, in millinery work, or as a clerk in a dry goods store. The pay for work was small compared to wages today. Men worked ten hours for a dollar and a quarter. A woman employed as a maid in some home was paid two dollars a week plus her board and room. Farm hands received about $20 a month. This money, however, was in comparison with prices. Houses rented for as low as $3.00 a month. Eggs were 6 to 10 cents a dozen, bacon 8 cents a pound, ham about the same, pork chops 12 cents, dressed rabbits 3 for a quarter, coffee 18 cents, butter 12 cents, and potatoes 25 cents a bushel. In other words for $1.00 a person could buy a basketfull of groceries. Groceries of the day did not sell any baked goods. Ginger snaps were the only cookies they had to offer. The candy department was limited to a supply of stick candy in jars. Peppermint and lemon flavors could be had. The price was two sticks for a penny.

Only 2 Still Here.

Looking about town in 1875 we would have found only two firms that are stil here. These are the Lake City Bank and the Phillipson store. The bank was three years old and was in a room south of its present location. It moved to the alley room in 1878. The McMurrays who had helped to found this new bank had left the bank and were moving to Indianapolis. They were father and son. They had built the large house that used to be northwest of the west ward schoolhouse. Hudson Beck became president of the bank and John Lewis the cashier. In these days two people could wait on all the trade at any small town bank. As a competitor this bank had the First National Bank which had been founded in 1863. It was on Market street in a room on the alley east of the Moon Block. The postoffice in 1875 was opposite this bank. This bank became the State Bank and some years later moved into the new Boss Block at the southwest corner of Market and Buffalo streets. This block was built in 1877. In 1896 Silas Chipman, Abe Brubaker and Walter Chipman took care of all the trade at this bank.

Postmaster Runyan.

In 1875 Captain John N. Runyan was postmaster and Emma Milice was his very obliging clerk. The postmaster and a couple of clerks took care of all the business at this place. Soon after January 1, 1876 the office was moved around to Center street to the Haymond building west of the Kirtley hotel. It was here for 14 years. Mail was hauled to the office from the two depots. The depot on the Fort Wayne & Chicago road was at Union street. The C. W. & M. was a new road and they were using the home of Mrs. Ludy at Center street for a depot. In 1875 this road built a freight depot south of the end of Market street where the Little Crow mill is now. A bus made all the trains and hauled people to the two hotels the Wright House and the Kirtley hotel. The Wright house was a three story brick building at the northeast corner of Center and Buffalo streets and the Kirtley hotel was a half a block east. James Whitcomb Riley once lived around town for a while and he stayed at the Wright House and wrote some of his poems there. (Editor's Note: George promises to continue this account of Warsaw in 1875 at a future date).

quit 7/59.

— To Center + Sud 1962

Ben Phillipson died 2/2/56 Says he was born SE Cor Buf & Main.

— Pete Williams
Geo. Runyan.
Meta Milice

Events of the 1880's in Warsaw.

Courthouse built 1882-4
Gas first used for lights
Roller Mills replace burrs.
Cleveland 1st Democratic president since Buchanan 1884.
Lakeside Park started by Summer Resort Association

Spring Fountain Park founded by Beyer Brothers.
"Ship Canal" connects Pike and Center Lake.
Gold Spike Ry. Kist etal
Masonic Temple built after Lake View Hotel Fire. Old Wright House corne
Phillipson's corner built after Cisney Fire 1885.

Hays Hotel built 1883-4
Thomas Block Built.
Meyers Mill Built
Frazer Ditch first constructed.
Harry Oram builds NW Cor Lake and Center

Water Works and stand pipe built 1886
Harrison elected 1888
Presbyterian Church built 1883
Christian Church built 1889
G.B.Lesh Facetory built after fire of 1883.

U.B.Church founded in Hendee's Hall 1882
Cowan Seminary burns. J.P.Mathers supt schools.
Funny Boys put on parade: Geo. Hendee, Jack Power, Geo. Smith, Sam Manle
Joe Biewend, Frank ~~Brewer~~, Breading, Warren Smith, Ed Aborn pressman
L. W. Royse mayor of Warsaw.

Caliboose burns. Nickle Plate Ry Built.
Saunders Supt. Schools 1887
S.D.Anglin Co. Supt. puts out book on schools.
Rev. Boyd Pres Ch to Mackay.
C.P.Hodge dies 1887. Principal here in 1872.-75

Wells sunk for oil or gas no results except water.

THE TOWN IN RUNYAN'S DAY

During the 20 years that Mr. Runyan was postmaster the office was at two different places. In the early 70's it was in a room which would now be east of Phillipson's store.* Then it was directly opposite the old First National Bank. In the fall of 1873 some citizens thought they had a back door hunch that the bank across the street was to be held up. The evening came for the affair and many of our civil war veterans gathered in the postoffice with various kinds of weapons to defend the bank but the whole thing proved to be a hoax. Reub Williams wroteup the affair in one o his most humorous articles. Januaryl, 1876 the office was moved around to the Haymond room two doors west of the old Kirtley Hotel. The room is now a part of Stephenson's store. In 1883 the big Wright House, a four story brick building, burned and the fire threatened the postoffice so much that Mr. Runyan hurriedly had the firemen move it over into Bob Hickman's saloon. Hickman said it was all right with him for he supposed the town could get along without one of its ten saloons better than it could without the postoffice! One of Runyan's helpers was ~~Neta~~ Emma Milice. In the lobby of the office at one time they had a big aquarium for gold fish. During th years that Mr. Runyan was in the office Warsaw grew and in 1875 it became a city. The vote was 278 for incorporation and 200 against it. Much improvement was done in these years such as the installation of water works, the building of the courthouse, the building of four fronts east of the old Graves corner, the building of the present structures where the Empire Block burned, the rebuilding of the part covered by the Wright House fire, the coming to town of the north and south railroad, the building of the Opera House Block, the putting in of gas mains, the replacing of many old board walks with stone or brick, the building of the Boss Block at Market and Buffalo, sw cor the rise of the Lesh Plant on Washington Street, and many oth improvements too numerous to mention. Warsaw was becoming a real city.

* Wright House burned. Temple Blk built 1883 + Home Room

W. H. Bowser 1886-9.

William Henry Bowser became postmaster at Warsaw August 2, 1886. He served about three years and three months while Grover Cleveland was president. He was a man 54 years of age when choosen for the place. Mr. Bowser was born in Hagerstown, Maryland October 30, 1832. His father was of German ancestry and his mother was English. The Bowser family came first to Ohio and then to Indiana reaching here in 1854. W. H. learned the carpenters trade and followed it 35 years. In 1855 he located in Seward Township ~~Warsaw~~ at W. end of Union St. and did carpenter work in the summer and taught school in the winter. In 1871 he began to deal in sewing machines. February 7, 1858 he was married to Catherine M. Kinsey a daughter from ~~of~~ an old family in the south part of the county. There were 6 children one of whom, Eddie, became a prominent lawyer in Warsaw and was judge from 1908 to 1920. The Bowsers attended the Methodist Church and he was a member of the Odd Fellows Lodge, the largest concern in town for many years. Cleveland was the first democrat to break the chain of Republican presidents after the war. Mr. Bowser had the postoffice in the same room that Runyan had had it on Center street. John Chandler and Charlie Egner were two of his helpers. Warsaw continued to have slow growth during the late 1880s. The Christian Church was built in 1889 at Lake and Main and the Chapman Block on the northeast corner of Buffalo and Market was built by C.W.Chapman + Mrs Robert Toney. This was in 1885. The new cou house was beginning to be occupied in 1884 and offices were moved back from the M.E.Church and the Center Ward School. Beyer Brothers began to advertise Spring Fountain Park during these years and some big times were held there in the summer. Steamers were placed on the lake. Lakeside Park began to be used during these years and much use was being made of Center lake where all the prominent men of Warsaw had row boats + sail boats on the lake. The Opera House was a busy place where many show companies put on their plays. Uncle Tom's Cabin, East Lynn, Sheridan Keen and others were shown.

× Union St is in Clay Twp 1st Street S. of Yankee St

George W. Bennett 1889-1893

Mr. Bennett followed Mr. Bowser as postmaster on November 12, 1889 and held the office until October 6, 1893. During these years Benjamin Harrison was the republican president. In the late summer of 1890 the office was moved to the corner room of the Moon Block. We have now reached the time when the writer as a boy was sent to the postoffice by his father to get the mail out of Box 359. The office at this time had many boxes. Mr. Bennett was the son of George Bennett an oldtimer in town and a writer for the old Indianians under the pen name of Boscum. The Bennett grocery store south of Shanes was a landmark inthe town. Mr. Bennett married Mary Nelson whom we remember as charwoman for the republican party in Warsaw not so many years ago. About the year 1893 a great depression began in this country called the Panic of 1893. In spite of this a great World's Fair was held in Chicago to commemorate the discovery of America by Christopher Columbus 400 years before. The Pennsylvania lines built a new depot in Warsaw replacing a string of old houses. It was a very beautiful structure and in 1897 a brick pavement was laid in front of it. Our high school in 1890 consisted of about 50 students. Fourteen graduated in 1890. They were Gusta Phillipson, Mable Haymond, Vesta Marrs, Vivian Pearman, Cora Loehr, Jennie Egner, Carrie Rutter, Maud Bass, Ollie Roberts, Luella Light, Anna Calvert, John Shoup, Charlie Stuart, and Bert Shane. The superintendent was T. J. Sanders who was an active member of the U.B. Church and wrote a book entitled The Psychology of the Religion of Jesus Christ. He left Warsaw to become president of Otterbein College. E. J. McAlpine was superintendent of the County Schools. When the postoffice was in the Moon Block many school children stopped there for the mail. During these years bicycles were coming into use and were called safties because they were safer than the former high wheel type of the 1880's. To be a real bicycle rider the person riding it had to be in uniform from shoes to cap!

Warsaw in 1890.

In 1890 the town had a population of perhaps 2500 people. They made a living by clerking in stores, working in the few factories that were in town, working on the railroad, etc. The Lesh factory employed about 30 men and their job was the making of plow handles for the International Harvester Co. of Moline, Ill. Women did not work outside of the home very much. If they did it was as a clerk in a dry goods store, as helper in a dressmaking or a milliners store, or perhaps as a cigar maker. Bentley, Royston and Chapman all made cigars. Warsaw was a town of unpaved streets which in the spring were very muddy and in the summer very dusty. Hitchracks were all along in front of the stores and around the courthouse square. Cobblestone gutters were ~~in~~ ~~behind~~ in front of the hitch racks. On Saturday afternoon the town would be crowded with horse and buggy rigs at these racks and in the alleys tied to poles and in the vacant lots. If it happened to be circus day a tremendous crowd would be in town to witness the big parade which came along about 11 A.M. Farmers came to town on Saturday to get their mail if for no other reason. They brought in butter and eggs to trade for coffee, sugar, rice, beans etc. Prices were low and so were wages. A man working all day would recieve about $1.50. Houses rented as low as $3 a month. Eggs sold at the grocery for 10¢ a dozen and butter for 15¢ a pound. Ham sold for 10¢ a pound, bacon for 8¢ and a ring of bologna for about 8¢ or less. The town was full of barns and sheds and outhouses. Most people had a garden in the summer. Many people had a cow and some even kept pigs in a pen next to the barn. Lots of barns contained horses, some for pleasure riding, others for work. Many log haulers lived in town. One electric arc light hung down at each street crossing uptown and the residence district was not nearly covered with these. And such was Warsaw sixty years ago when Harrison was president, and George Bennett was our postmaster. The Moon corner made a good site for the office for it was on the road between the two depots.

W. D. Alleman 1893-1897.

W. D. Alleman was postmaster in Warsaw under Cleveland during his second term. Alleman Brothers, Will and Gene, had a grocery in the opera house block. Then when the building was built west of the Hotel Hays* about 1900 they moved into this room and had the first real grocery store that Warsaw had ever seen. They kept green goods in the winter and a full line of pastries. During Alleman's time in the office it still remained i the Moon Block. Bob Long and Anna Scollard were two of the helpers under Alleman. The 1893 depression was on during part of this time and when 1896 rolled around the country went back to Republicanism under McKinley. W. D. Alleman was a very active, good natured man who wore sideburns. He was a democrat altho his brother Gene was a republican. W. D. built the large house at Park and Clark street and had an orchard. During these yea James M. Henry became superintendent of schools. The new depot on the PFW&CRW was completed and a passenger depot was built for the Big Four or CW&M. The Peashwa Block* was built south of the courthouse. It replaced several old frame buildings in one of which Wing Kee had had a Chinese Laundry. The Hitzler corner burned out and Hitzler built the brick now used by Schraders at Lake and Center west of the Biggs room. During these years Holbrooks had the contract for transfering and hauling the mail and Clark or Fred would go down the street at a fast rate when they were late They drove a team of mules and had a blacksnake handy. The express office was west of Lovedays Tailor shop and east of Webber's hardware store. Bob Nelson was express agent. Holbrooks bus could be seen going from the hotels to the depots. The White House and the Hays Hotel were the two leading ones of the town. Many drays were on our streets and if the Baptist church bell was tolled rapidly or the factory whistles began to blow short blasts there would be a grand race of draymen for the fire stations to get a hosecart or something else to haul to the fire. If they made it they were paid one dollar.

*Hotel - Torn down 7/59. Peashwa Block Torn down Spring of 72.

Congressman
A.S. Brick got Bob Nelson in after Bentley.

Roy Bartal 1899 died 10/74
Became 2nd Class over $7000.00 intake but had to canvass town to sell stamps + keep it this way.

11/1/00 1st City delivery
1957 Stubbs out after 40 years.

7/10/99 Rural mail service began. Mid-June, on. of first. Retired in 1913. Jan 30

P.O. Moved from Moon Blk corner around to Temple Block Fall 1898
+ Mrs. Gene Markwood took old room for a millinery store. On Center St PO had side entrance on Buf-St + made it very convenient.

Moon Blk burned Sat. aft 3/25/61

Open Home 10/12/67 9 PM to 2 AM Very spectacular fire caught in basement. Ca 2 AM

Mrs. Bentley + Mrs. Charlie Pyle were sisters

Bentleys went to St Paul from here.

1-1963 1st Store remained on Moon Blk corner in New Bldg after fire.

9/30/04 to Graves Room.
Charlie Nye worked to get it here.

Charles B. Bentley 1897-1906.
(McKinley + Teddy Roosevelt presidents)

Charles B. Bentley, a worker in the Republican ranks, was appointed postmaster in Warsaw in October, 1897 and served until February, 1906. Bentley was born August 24th, 1856 in Boston. His father formerly lived in England and was a cigar manufacturer. Bentley's mothers maiden name was McInnis, a woman from Ireland. As a young man Bentley worked as a messenger in the telegraph service and then as a drug store clerk. Then he took up his father's calling of cigar making and by 1881 he was in Warsaw as owner of a cigar store on West Market Street. He married Jeanette Jerman, daughter of Dan Jerman. Three children were in the family, Phil, Wilma and Anna. Phil (sub-normal) used to be a special messenger for the post office force during his fathers incumbancy. Under Bently the office became a 2nd class office and in 1900 free delivery began in the town and country. Farmer Quackenbush, Orville Kilmer and Ot Philpott were the town carriers. Rural mail service began in July, 1899. The first carriers were Milo James, Will McCarter, George Foster and Norman Haymond. James went west on Route 2, Foster went north, Haymond south and McCarter east. It was a long ways between stops. The salary was $600.00 a year and the carrier furnished his own horses and wagon. The wagons were small and were enclosed. When it was cold they could be heated with a lantern. When the roads were bad in the spring it took two horses to pull the wagon. The farmers used the mail men for all kinds of errands and in turn furnished them with quite a bit of food. Later Jerald Paul and Milton Zimmer became rural carriers. Warsaw grew during these years. The Interurban came to town, streets were paved uptown, a new high school building was built, and Jacob Maish built at the southwest corner of Lake and Market streets. The Elks lodge was organized and the first Elks Temple was built where three or so frame rooms had been. Brick rooms replaced some old frame buildings on south Buffalo street. Bentley's postoffice was on Center street east of Chapman's cigar store.

See directory for 1910.

P.O. in Graves Room S. Buffalo 4th S Glenwood to Ind

From a directory of 1910-11 we find the personnell of the postoffice at that time was as follows:

Postmaster ---- Eugene Alleman
Assistant ----- Jesse A. Whitehead
General Delivery Clerk --- Fred Goshert

Mailing Clerk---- Roy Bartol
Stamping Clerk --- Carey Brenneman
City Carriers --- Russell Butler Clark Holbrook O. B. Kilmer
Substitute------- Ott Philpott

Special Delivery---- Wm M. Bennett

Rural Carriers:	H.P.Comstock	Subs.	Ambrose Horrick
	Milo James		Neil Scott
	Milton Zimmer		Justin Zimmer
	Burke C. Cook.		Arthur Stevens
	Elmer James		
	Bazil Durbin		Dan Kelly
	Frank Welch		

PO was entered one night when Bentley was PM on Center St. Did not get much but was quite a news item. I believe Bentley had one ~~foot~~ leg shorter than the other. was slightly crippled.

I cannot write good with a ball point pen.

Bob Nelson & Gene Alleman

1906 - 1914.

During these eight years the postoffice remained mostly in the Grave room. Robert W. Nelson took office February 27, 1906 and was postmaster until April 29th 1910 when Alleman took over and was in until May 4, 1914. Nelson had been agent for the Adams Express Company and had his headquarters just east of Webbers hardware store and west of Tommy the Tailor. A plank platform was built here so that the transfer wagon could load and unload. During these years Teddy Roosevelt and Taft were the two presiden Warsaw went ahead at this time. In 1906-7 the Interurban Line from Goshen was pushed on to Mentone, Akron, Chili and Peru. Thus it became the Connecting Link. In 1904 our first street paving was done on the uptown streets. In ~~1914~~ 1911 the present First National Bank building was built. To build it they had to remove the old Boss brick, the first to be built in Warsaw (1849) and the three old frame store rooms next to it, one to the south and two to the west. This was a big improvement. It was about this time that Ringle built on south Buffalo and a new building replaced the old Perry Brown meat market 1905. Winona Park took quite a step forward during these years and the Campus Addition and the Mount Memorial Additions were laid off. Good programs were given during the summer. Creatore's Band, Kiltie's Band, Madam Shuman Heink and many other leading attractions were on the program. The old auditorium could not hold the crowds. The summer street cars were well loaded in the evening. The Pennsylvania put on a fast train that made the run from Chicago to New York in 18 hours. A few automobiles began to appear on our streets. They were quite crude compared to the cars of today. They were not enclosed, had gas lights, smal tires, and high seats. Bicycles were coming into general use. Old center ward had become so crowded that classes were being held in the library room and for all we know in the engine room so a new building was put up

Form done 3/59 [illegible]

on Washington St.
High School building last used for school term 1974-5. New middle school ready for school fall of 1975.

Elmer Funk — Elmer* says his father bought the old home site from Pottengers Ca 1870. Elmer born 1876. D. 60 or 61

Elmers father married in 1874.
2nd wife was Flora Sapp.

11- 1908 grading winds from side of Leesburg-Warsaw road to make it wide enough for 2 teams to pass. no automobiles then.

Post 1909-13. ~~Dick~~ ~~Ca~~ 1960-61
1910 Postoffice Hrs. So. Buffalo Grants Room
Eugene Allerman Pres
Jesse A. Whitehead Asst.
Fred Goshert Gen. Del
Leroy Bartel Mailing clerk.
Carey Brownman Stamper
City Carriers Roscoe Butler Clark Holbrook Orville Kilmer
Substitute Otto Pinkerton.
Special Del Boyd Bennett.
Rural Carriers R 1 Henry Comstock Sat Andrew Horrick
2 Mike Jones Nick Scott
3 Hunter Gunner Justin Gunner
4 Burke Cook J A Stevens
5 Elmer Jones
6 Boyd Curlin D W Kelly
7 Frank E Weed

Sept. 30 1904 PO moves to Graves Room. + stays there until Nov. 1918. Then to E Room of Opera House Block.

Gene Alleman

in 1904-5 where Bram Funk had lived. This was a pretty place. The Funk house sat rather high on a hill and in front were terraces and many trees. The new H.S. building was ready during 1905-6 and the classes moved over about the middle of the year. J. J. Early was then the Superintendent. The school board was Rittenhouse (Matt), Coleman (Joe) and Lessig (Dave). The new building was a great help. The graduating class for 1907 was about 40. Gene Alleman, as we have said before, was one of the Alleman Brothers who had an up-to-date grocery in town in the early years of this century. By the time he took over it is likely that a Mr. Cline was running the store. Alleman was in during the so called Bull Moose campaign of 1912 when Teddy thought he was a party in himself and ran against Taft. The result was that Wilson became president althought his popular vote was far below that of Roosevelt and Taft put together. It was the third time the G.O.P. had divided since the Civil War and each time the democrats won. It was not long after Wilson became president that Lucius C. Mann was appointed postmaster. By this time the first World War had started and there was much talk around Warsaw both for and against the Germans. The United States did not get into the war until 1917. It was about the time that Alleman was postmaster that Ed Nye who had a grocery just to the north took a notion to get rid of his rats. Some boards in the floor were taken up and some poisoned bacon was hung below. The rats seem to have eaten it very greedily and then went over under the floor of the postoffice to die. There it was warmer for they had a furnace. The postal authorities were soon aware that something was wrong and found out from Ed what the trouble was. Someone was hired to remove the dead rats and the office continued as usual. Gene Alleman was a jovial, tall man who had many friends. Nelson was small and quick and well liked. Alleman was more of the slow going type and no doubt took well with his help. It was not until after the first world war closed that automobiles came into general use.

Harry Warren was instructor of French at Terre Haute Normal. Retired about 1954 and came to Warsaw to live. His wife Harriett Lessie, Warren died about 1956. Married again 4/12/58. Went to Marshall Ill 1954.

☆ In the fall of 1918 ca Nov 1. the PO moved to E. End of the Opera House Block. from the grocery Room on S. Buffalo St.

1908 - 9. from old directory
Robert Nelson PM Wm E Ripple Asst
Clerks - Bartol Roy - Carey Brenneman + Fred Hoshet
City Carriers - Russell H Butler
Clark M Holbrook
Charles S Kilmer

Rural Carriers - Henry P Comstock
Hale H James
Milton S Jennings
Burke C Cook
Chester E James
Boyd L Martin Aug 1/1/

L. C. Wann 1914 to 1923.

Mr. Wann was postmaster during the first World War when Woodrow Wilson was president. He took office May 4, 1914 and turned it over to Orville Kilmer ~~January 30, 1923~~ Sept 4, 1922 when Coolidge was president. L. C. Wann was born in Franklin Township of this county February 3, 1861. He spent his boyhood days in Marshall County around Tippecanoetown on the river. After leaving high school he attended a Methodist College at Ft. Wayne. Later he was in business at Tippecanoe and at Claypool, In 1886 he came to Warsaw and was a travelling man for some years selling tea and coffee. Later he had a china and notion store in Warsaw. He had been chairman for this county in the democratic ranks, was a Mason and a member of the Chamber of Commerce. He married Retta Burket, daughter of Dr. Ben Burket, and a sister of Dr. ~~Charlie~~ C. Ed Burket, a dentist. Three sons were born into the family Louis, Harry and Frank. All of them became college professors. When Mr. Wann was postmaster the office was in the Graves Room three doors south of the Old State Bank. Charlie Nye, who had a clothing store two doors north, was instrumental in getting the office moved from Center Street to this room formerly occupied by Graves and Bartol who had a dry goods store there During Mr. Wann's time as postmaster the southwest corner of Buffalo and Center Street was made to look better by building the present First National Bank building.* More streets were paved and the town grew to the east. A boom in church building came in 1915-16 when the old Methodist Church was torn down and the present building erected. The old Baptist corner was sold to the city and this congregation built on Detroit at Center street. The Presbyterian church was remodelled and doubled in size. A library building was built as a partial gift from Andrew Carneigie. It replaced the old Lesh home which for several years had been a sanitarium. The Wann family attended the Methodist church and were faithful members. *

* No. built 1911. Built on 5 to alley (1914)

P.O. Employees 1915 ±

Arthur Phelps 8000

Roy Bartel Died 10/74 93 yrs old

Fred Gorbert

Cary Brunneman

Clark Holbrook City carrier

Charlie Taylor
Milt Zimmer
Mike James
Justin Zimmer
} Rural carriers

Van Vekroom

Orville B. Kilmer. 1922- 1935.

Mr. Kilmer became acting postmaster on the night of September 4, 1922. Mr. Wann turned the office over to him. In the spring of 1884 Mr. Kilmer came to Warsaw with his parents. His father, George W. Kilmer, owned and operated a drug store in the first room north of the Lake City bank. He later took charge of the Corner Book Store. This was at the southwest corner of Buffalo and Center streets, an old site for the bookstore since the time of Burgess and Gilmore. The Kilmers later moved to a farm near Mentone and later into the town where G. W. had a drug store. Orville left Mentone to serve with Co. H. 160 th Indiana Volunteers. He served in the Spanish-American War. After the war was over he returned to Warsaw. He has lived here ever since, a period of about 53 years. City delivery started under Bentley on December 1, 1900. Orville Kilmer and Major L. E. Harter were the first two city carriers. Charlie Kelley was substitute carrier. They worked fifty hours a week and the pay was $50 a month. Mr. Kilmer remembers that Bentley had three different assistant postmasters during his time. They were John Chandler, Vincent Foster and O. B. Kilmer. Mr. Kilmer served over 32 years in the postal service or on leave for military service. He was city carrier, clerk, rural carrier, assistant postmaster and postmaster. This is perhaps a longer record than any other person has ever had in Warsaw.

In 1905 Mr. Kilmer took the national guard unit from Warsaw to the inaugural ceremonies in Washington for Teddy Roosevelt. He was in the first World War and rose to the rank of Colonel. During his time as postmaster we had as presidents Harding, Coolidge and Hoover. He had his post office in the two east rooms of the Opera House which were rented of Dr. McDonald and Minnie Gary. The office had now grown to be a large concern and was a first class office. Jesse Whitehead was assistant postmaster. Clerks were Roy Bartol, Arthur Phelps, Otis Warner, John W. Davis, Fred Hunter, Carey Brenneman and Donald Dubbs. He had as city carriers Roy Bowen, Avery Garberm George

(Pinkey) McClellan, Ott Philpott and Clark Holbrook. John Boys and Leonard East were sub-carriers. Rural carriers were Russel (Doc) Lefever, Ford N. Hardman, Ralph Dewart, Bazil Durbin, and Frank Welch. Ralph Brown and John Mauzy were substitutes. James Howard was transferred here from Burket and Urban Volman from Bremen. Charley Taylor was also a rural mail carrier. Joe Bowen was also a clerk. Mr. Kilmer appointed Adrian Coplen, Ted Davis and Pinky McClellan as helpers. The east rooms of the opera house was the last travelling home of the office.

About 1930 they began to look for a site for the new postoffice. The ceiling price for a site of ½ block was to be $10,000.00. The Funk corner, a site south of Haymond's house, the Oldfather corner and the Bash property were all considered. The Bash family had all passed away except Flint and he sold his old home site for this amount. The frame house was moved to the NW corner of Columbia and Ft. Wayne and the brick mansion of the 1880s was torn down. The new building was first used about January, 1933. Pop Syphers said he was the first one to buy a stamp in the new building. The new building gave the workers a chance to do their work better. The postmaster has a pleasant office. The money order and box rent department is seperate and the whole west end of the building is for the clerks and carriers. There is a good basement used by other government officials. The building is not a beauty by any means but is practical. It is a far cry from a corner of Thralls and Pottengers drug store or the old Perry Brown meat market building on South Buffalo.

Franklin D. Roosevelt took office about 1933 and Charlie Anglin was appointed as acting postmaster. Since his retirement from office Mr. Kilmer lives a life more or less of ease and is content to let the world go on without his being on the front firing line. To write about all the improvements that came to Warsaw during the long record of Mr. Kilmer in the postoffice would indeed make a long story for much was done in these years.

ORVILLE KILMER

Orville Kilmer has been an influential man about Warsaw for many years. It is doubtful if any other person has had such a long career in the military service as he has had. He was born at Wakarusa, Indiana July 8, 1879. His parents were George W. Kilmer and Mary Brubaker Kilmer. He attended high school while the family resided at Mentone and graduated with the class of 1896. He then taught school in Harrison Township at the Cook school and at a school south of Etna Green called River Bend. His pay was $8 and $10 a week. In 1898 he enlisted in the Indiana National Guard at Warsaw and the next day was on the road to the South in the Spanish-American War. He was in Cuba with Co. H of the 160th Indiana Volunteer Infantry. In the spring of 1899 he was mustered out of service and returned to this county. His folks had moved to the busy town of Packerton. This place at that time was a town of sawmills for lumber was still sawed in this county. In June 1900 Orville re-enlisted in the National Guard and was made a sergeant. While a member of this organization he rose to the rank of captain, saw service on the Mexican border and was on strike and emergency duty at Indianapolis, Muncie and Logansport. The duty at Logansport was in 1913 in connection with the Peru flood. His military service entended into World War II when he was stationed at Fort Sill, Oklahoma school of fire and later at Camp Shelby, Camp Taylor and finally at Camp Custer where he was mustered out of service. His period in the service covered in all about 35 years. Afterwards he was Commander of the American Legion at Warsaw and the Hamilton B. Paul camp of Spanish War Veterans. In civil life Mr. Kilmer was once president of the Warsaw Chamber of Commerce, chairman of the executive committee for the Community Chest, secretary of the County Fair Association, head of the Rotary Club, and for 10 years was a trustee in the Methodist Church at Warsaw. During World War II he was one of the selective service Board. Today Mr. Kilmer is retired. As we have said before he was postmaster in Warsaw from 1922 to 35 and came to this office after being a city carrier and a rural carrier. 8-1962 83

ROY BOWEN 1939- Mar. 1954.

Roy Bowen, like Orville Kilmer, came into the postmastership with much experience in the mail service. Since May 7, 1917 he had been a city mail carrier with the exception of 13 months spent in the military service during the first world war. Mr. Bowen followed Charlie Anglin who had been acting postmaster since 1935. Roy took the office officially on July 7, 1939 and has been postmaster since that time. Franklin D. Roosevelt and Harry Truman were the presidents during these years. He is the third postmaster to serve in the new building. Following is a list of his helpers as of 1939.

Jesse A. Whitehead	Assistant postmaster
Donald R. Dubbs	Clerk
Leroy Bartol	do
Otis O. Warner	do
Avery L. Garber	do
Fred Hunter	do
Art Phelps	do
George E. (Pinkey) McClellan	Regular City Carrier Retired 1956
John W. Davis (Ted)	do
Clark M. Holbrook	do D Co 1952
John C. Boys	do
Keith Doran	do
Russel Lefever	Rural Carrier
Ralph E. Dewart	do
James Howard	do
Ford H. Hardman	do
Urban G. Volmer	do
Ralph C. Litchenwalter	Custodian
George West (Colored)	do

Whitehead, Warner, Holbrook, Howard and West have died since 1939.

Bartol, Phelps, LeFever and Hardman have retired.

The receipts for the office in 1939 were $52329.64.
in 1952 $169781.76

The biggest rush of the year is at Christmas time when extra clerks are on duty and the lobby is equipped with tables for the convenien of the patrons. Mr. Bowen died in March, 15 1954 and Frank Rar~~k~~ick was appointed to take the place.

In November, 1902 Mr. Kilmer married Mabelle G. Alleman, daughte Rev. J. B. Alleman and sister of Gene Alleman. To them one daughter w born. She is Karolyn born July 6, 1905.

Ca 1953 Kilmers went to Warren and to live at Mr Horne.

The present employment list is as follows: (1953)

Lamont Bibler	Asst. Postmaster
Amos A. Pyle	Supt. of the Mails.
Adrian D. Coplen Donald R. Dubbs Avery L. Garber Fred Hunter Forrest E. Jobe John R. Ladd Edwin C. Roberts Billie D. VanDorn Beecher Wiggins	Clerks
Robert H. Fuller Thomas R. Mosher	Sub Clerks
John C. Boys John W. Davis Herschel E. Johnston Ralph C. Litchenwalter Donald E. McCleary George E. McClellan Jr. Richard A. Zimmer	City Carriers 4-1-54 Rural Carrier
Lee E. Moser Howard Swinehart	Sub carriers
Marshall E. Rickel Ralph E. Dewart D 9-64 Earl Coplen Urban G. Vollmer	Rural Carriers Retired spring 1954
Philip D. Egolf	Temporary Rural Carrier
Lester D. Anglin Edson L. Finkenbiner Hazen O. Shideler	Sub Rural Carriers
J. Hampton Bouldin Scottie E. Ervin	Custodians

In all there are 32 people working under the supervision of the postmaster.

List of postoffice employees 1954.

Frank O. Rarick	Acting postmaster
LaMont Y. Bibler	Assistant postmaster
Amos A. Pyle	Superintendent of the mails.

Clerks

Donald R Dubbs — Since 1917.
Avery L. Carter
Fred Hunter
Adrian D. Coplen
Forrest E. Jobe

Edwin C. Roberts
John R. Ladd
Billie D. VanDorn
Robert H. Fuller
~~George R. Kinney~~

City Carriers.

John C. Boys
John W. Davis
Herschel E. Johnson

Ralph C. Litchenwalter — Package delivery with truck
Used to be Clark Holbrook who used a horse.

Howard Swinehart
Geo. E. (Pinkey) McClellan Jr. — retired about 10-1-55
Lee E. Mosher

Sub Clerks are Harold A. Garber, Woodward C. Kober, Tom R. Mosher
Sub Carrier Geo. R. Kinney

Note: I remember the cold Sat. Jan. ~~10~~ 12, 1918 Saturday. Nobody ~~much~~ was out of doors. The stores did not open in some cases due to subzero and blustery weather. I was in the Chemistry Lab at the high school where I was teaching. Clark Holbrook went by delivering mail on a sled pulled by one horse. He was dancing to keep warm. It was the worst day since New Years Day of 1864 which according to oldtimers was the worst we ever had.

Maurice Brosnahan died 3-27-55 1955 — 11 am Sunday — B 1-28-64 91 years old
Pm Roseton 1893
+ Act Pm 1946

For Pm Sidney 1895 — son Harry killed on Ry.

Rural Carriers

1. Marshall E. Rickle Route 1.
2. Richard A. Zimmer 2.
3. Earl Coplen 3. 19 1/2 - 2
4. Donald E. McCleary 4.
5. Urban G. Vollmer 5.

Sub-Rural Carriers

Lester Anglin
Hazen Shideler
Chester Kolar

Five Rural Routes

RR1 Total mileage	67.40 miles	412 families
2	61.95	490
3	56.05	317
4	66.45	388
5	58.30	284 new
Totals per day	310.15	1891
week	960.90	
month	24973.40	
year	299680.80 miles	

5 city routes serve 2519 patrons daily six days a week.
1 mounted route

Other facts

Last fiscal year 1953-4

Handles 498 postal savings accounts.
35,903 domestic M.O. and 10 forign
11001 domestic and 5 foreign MO paid by Warsaw PO.
14,500 special delivery letters and parcels delivered.

17,501 insured parcels mailed out.
3036 pieces of registered mail mailed out.

Present daily number of pieces sorted delivered or dispatched 25 to 30 thousand.

300 lock boxes are rented out. Small $2,00 a quarter large _____

Two government owned trucks used to deliver mail in town.

Trucks in mail service are as follows:

Plymouth to Warsaw and return	small trucks
Marion to Warsaw and return	" "
Goshen to Warsaw and return	" "
Plymouth to Ft. Wayne and return	large truck
Warsaw to VanWert Ohio and return	" "

Trucks now handle about 90% of the mail here and trains about 10%.

Fiscal Year 1953-4.

Total business by Warsaw PO $199,820.20

One Warsaw firm spent over $33,600 for postage thru this office.

About 30,000 pieces of mail handled daily
180,000 weekly
720,000 monthly
8640,000 yearly

Many Warsaw firms pay by the meter system. A clerk checks the meter periodically and collects the amount due.

In the lobby are stamp vending machines.

Postmaster is in charge of the building and grounds, all government property and trucks.

Cancelling is no longer done by hand but by modern machines.

Basement of the building is used to some extend by other government officials.

6-22-58 1st began use of push carts for city delivery.

Lee Mosher
Clyde Bruner
Richard Kinney
Bud Garber
Howard Swinehart
Herschel Johnson

Frank Rarick Asst.

Aug. 1 1958 3¢ postage to go to 4¢

10¢ began ca 1970
Talking over 1-16 of 134.
no more xtra for air mail

Frank O. Rarick

1954

Frank O. Rarick, who was appointed Acting Postmaster at Warsaw, Indiana on April 1, 1954 was born March 29th, 1894 near Clunette in Prairie Township, KCI. He was the youngest of five children in the family of the late William B. Rarick and Samantha Ferguson Rarick of the Atwood community. All five of the children are still living.

The William B. Rarick family moved from near Clunette to thei own farm north of Atwood on the banks of Hoffman's Lake in 1898. They resided there until Mr. Rarick's retirement. After this they resided in Atwood until their deaths. The Rarick family was a prominent and highly respected family of these communities. Frank O. Rarick's grandfather , Andrew Rarick, came to this county on foot with two other brothers from Pennsylvania in the early 1800s and took up a claim about a mile southwest of what later became Clunette. Clunette came into being as a village about 1860 The other two ~~brth~~ brothers acquired claims on the east side of Wawasee Lake near Indian Village in Noble County. The Rarick family has always been prominent and active in the affairs of the Republican party in this county. Frank O. Rarick's father William B. Rarick was a precinct committeeman and Republican worker in Prairie Township for many years and his uncle L.L. Rarick, commonly known as Lem Rarick, was superintendent of the County Home for a number of years beginning about 1896.

In his youthful days Frank Rarick attended school at Buzzards Glory, a school two miles north and one mile east of Atwood. After graduating here he attended Atwood High School and was graduated from this school in 1912 as one of the first class of graduates. As baseball was then the popular sport in the schools he showed promise as a baseball player and was captain and first baseman of the high school team in 1912. This team at that time was listed as the leading high school team in Northern Indiana. That year Atwwood defeuted Warsaw High School, Nappanee High, the Winona Academy, the Winona Aggies, and other strong teams. basketball at this time was a sissy game played only by girls. Chester Manwaring, now a well known and prosperous poultry man of Mentone, was then the principal at Atwood and coach of the team. Jack Rovenstein was catcher on this team. Now he is a doctor ~~o~~ and one of the leading anesthesiasts of the world and is known as Dr. E. A. Rovenstein. Frank Rarick later played baseball with his battalion team overseas in the U. S. army. He played semi-pro ball around Warsaw, was two years with the Lincoln Life Team of Ft. Wayne, and gained a tryout in 1916 with Ft. Wayne in the Central League.

Frank learned telegraphy inhis spare time. During his last year in high school he loafed around the Atwood Tower where his ~~br~~ brother . . A. Rarick was the regular operator for the Pennsylvania Railroad. Here he became acquainted with the code and it was not long intil he could send a message. Recieving is more difficult but in time he could take a message. These were the days when many young men took up this work which paid about $75 a month. Now the messages are all by telephone. Frank was employed by the company and worked in many of the offices over the entire division. The line was not yet fully double tracked and many messages went over the line to control the meeting of trains etc. Wheter or not the operator had a message for a train was signaled to the train by semaphores over the track and by night lights were used. The division in which Frank worked reached from Gary to Crestline, Ohio. He maintained his seniority rights in spite of working at other things and was retired in 1952 after 39 years of service. In those days there was a tower between here and Atwood called Selby Tower. There was also ~~a~~ gates at the Big Four crossi in Warsaw. On December 1, 1917 Frank enlisted in the U.S.Signal Corps for immediate overseas service and was assigned to the 415 Re Railroad Telegraph Battalion which was a part of the 1st U. S. Army. His unit was part of the first 250,000 U. S. soldiers to see service in France, On June 1, 1919 he was discharged at Camp Grant, , Illinois with the rank of Sergeant.

In 1920 Frank Rarick was married to Ethel F. Shillings, a teacher in the county schools, and a member of a well known and highly respected family. Two daughters came to bless their home both of whom are now married. Isobel is now a teacher in the East Lantsing, Michigan high school. Her husband Robert T. Pfeiffer is a member of the faculty of the Michigan State University. Evelyn is a teacher here in the Warsaw schools. Her husband, Cleon Marsh, teaches at Silver Lake. The Rarick family have resided at 112 North Washington street since 1921. It used to be the ~~Evers~~ Crowl home. It is a pleasant place to live and is only a block west of the public square and next to the U. B. Church. The family belong to this church and Frank is a past president of the Otterbein Brotherhood. He and Mrs. Rarick are joint owners of the Rarick Farms ~~not~~ north of Atwood. This farm has a very short abstract for it has been in the Rarick hands for over a century. It faces on Hoffman's Lake. From 1929 to 1952 Frank ran a dry cleaning establishment opposite south of the ~~postoffice~~ (Grant House). Strange to say it was in the same room that A. G. Wood had the postoffice about 1869.

. r. Rarick has always taken a keen interest in the political affairs of his community. He has been a lifelong republican and has served as city councilman from 1939 to 1942. From 1943 to 1947 he served as mayor. During this time an aviation commission was established, a zoning board, and a recreation commission. The Warsaw Municipal Airport was acquired. The city was zoned for the first time which started building to some pattern instead of the helter skelter pattern of former years. Some playgrounds were

established. George Nye donated to the city a tract where the old Godman Ice Cream works used to be on Center Lake. An unattractive dumping grounds at the south end of Pike Lake was made into a park. Everett Rasor was one of the chief se sponsors of this park. Many other things were done during his administration as mayor to make Warsaw a more attractive summer re resort city. During these five years Frank also acted as city judge as then prescribed by State Statute and adjudicated some 2500 cases filed in this court.

In 1948 Frank was elected to serve as State Representative. He was re-elected in 1950 and 1952. He was selected as chairman of the Railroad Committee, a member of the Ways and Means Committee , Cities and Towns and Roads. He served on several important Advisory Committes. These were composed of two members from each house of the Legislature being selected by the Speaker. On April 1, 1954 he resigned from this duty to become the acting postmaster at Warsaw after the death of Roy Bowen. Frank was three times elected as Republican County Chairman by the 98 precinct committeemen. He served faithfully in this capacity from 1951-54. During these years this county gave an alltime high republican vote and many meeting and rallies were held which were attended by capable speakers such as Charles A. Halleck. Gen. Dwight Eisenhour recieved in this county more than 7000 majority votes over his democratic opponent Adlai Stephenson. In addition to his many activities Frank also found time to take part in other civic and community affairs, He is a charter member of the John C. Peterson Post No. 49 of the American Legion of Warsaw, He is a member of the Rotary Club and is a Past President. He is a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles and has served as president. He is a Mason , a member of both the York and Scottish Rite, a member of the Ft. Wayne Mizpah Shrine and plays in their band. Besides these activities he has always been available to do his part in any movement that is good for the welfare of the city. Under his regine as postmaster the postal receipts are increasing from year to year. The 1953 receipts were $186,816.82 and in 1954 they were $211,782.70 and increase of nearly 12%. With the growing population of the city it is natural that there will be an increase in the annual receipts and that more responsibility will be added to the office.

↑ written by Frank

Became 33rd° Mason Ca 1959. Ft Wayne.

Retired from postoffice in 1968.

Visit Frank at nursing home Fall 1970.

May 1972 Been in Bad Hope for 2 years.

Had big Shriner Parade 1971 + he couldn't be in it.

Died 4/27/76 Alpran nursing home. 5:25 pm

Age 82

OTHER POSTOFFICES IN KOSCIUSKO COUNTY.

1836 to 1953.

PRELIMINARY REMARKS.

It would be very helpful if we had a list of all the postoffices that were ever established in this county and the names of the postmaster and their term of office. We have this only for Warsaw. The only place this record would be kept complete is in the office of the post-master general at Washington, D.C. In the old horse and buggy days it took a long time to go anyplace especially when the roads were bad and so it was logical to trade at some store close by. Thus there sprang up about the county many small villages which have now almost disappeared. Nothing is left of Kinsey, Sevastopol, Hastings, Hepton, Orion, Wooster, and other places which were busy trading places fifty to seventy-five years ago. Packerton was a large enough place back in these bygone days that the Knights Templar went down there and paraded thru the town led by a band. Whenever a political campaign came along speakers used to go to these places and they would have a good meeting and perhaps erect a pole and shoot a lot of guns and firecrackers. The U. B. conference was held once at Packerton. 1893 One of the lively places at these villages was the school-house. Here a teacher would hold forth over as many as fifty scholars ranging from 20 years of age down to 6. The teacher recieved not more than $2 a day for his services. Many of these postoffices were on what was called a star route out of some larger place. Mail was carried on a stage coach from Warsaw back in the 1860s to Goshen. The late Ed Aborn says it was placed in what was called the boot, a place behind the drivers seat. Ira Gans for 16 years hauled the mail to and from Vawters Park via Northwebster and Oswego to Leesburg. There must have been a post-office called Vawter's Park on Lake Wawasee. We read in the times-Union for Feb. 9, 1953 that Norma Creighton has been appointed acting postmistress at Atwood, Ind. She succeeds Samuel Hite who resigned January 31 after 32 years of service in the office. Mrs. Doyle Swanson is deputy.

Postoffices in Kosciusko County.

It is rather a coincidence that the first postmaster in this county or rather on land that later became Kosciusko County should be the man who two years later laid out the town of Warsaw, gave it its name and fixed the boundaries of this county and named the county. This man was John Butler Chapman. He was appointed postmaster in 1834 by Jackson when Chapman was living on the prairie northeast of Leesburg. He also was placed in charge of a mail route and was made commissioner of Indian Reserves, thus holding three government positions at one time. Chapman was born in 1797 in Harrison County, Virginia where his father operated the first fulling-mill, oil and grist mill west of the Allegheny Mountains. Chapman helped in the milling business until he became tired of it and set out to be a doctor. He had a checkered career as a young man and studied law and medicine both. He came to Indiana after marrying Margaret McCoy, a native of Ireland, a very active and educated woman. They had three sons, Charles W. Albert and John. Charles W. became prominent in Warsaw and was a colonel in the Civil War. He built the first flour mill in Warsaw in 1857. It was west of the courthouse. John Butler after travelling at large finally came to rest in Northern Indiana and was sent to the legislature in 1834 to represent Elkhart and LaGrange Counties. Here he introduced the bill creating Kosciusko County. He named it thus for Kosciusko, the polish hero who fought for us in the Revolutionary War. Chapman knew Jackson and Van Buren. He later sold out his interest in Warsaw for $1000 and went west. He figured much in the history of Kansas being for a free state. In later life he was a clerk in the U.S. Treasury Department but became poor before he died. He passed away in Warsaw in 1877. It is doubtful if any of our early pioneers had such a busy career as did Chapman who even visited the pacific coast in his travels. His eccentricity was proverbial. He was a Jackson-ian democrat

Hi Biggs came from around Angleton. William Biggs Anglin commonly known as Will Anglin had a store there with the postoffice in it. John and Harrison were bro of Hi Biggs and Wash Anglin's mother was his sister. Don M. Dickenson was postmast general that signed the commission from ~~1899~~ 1889 to ~~1910~~ 1900 11 years.

NORTHWEST PART OF THE COUNTY

In Scott Township Millwood was a small village and an office was established here in 1853. J. D. Koffel was the postmaster. He hauled the mail out from Leesburg. This office was abandoned after some years and three years later an office was established a mile west at Hamman's store. Valentine Hamman became postmaster. He was also somewhat of a surveyor and surveyed ditches for men of that community. William B. Jones and J. D. Koffel were the first merchants in this township. The village of Gravelton is in Jefferson Township on the B&O railway which was built thru in 1873. Gravelton was founded about this time by David Brumbaugh. He had a store here and a postoffice was established there with Levi Miller as postmaster. Gravelton is on the north line of the County but most of the village is in this county. Hastings was a small community down near the southern part of this township but so far as we know no postoffice was located there. James Hollar had a tile mill here and there was a schoolhouse and church there. Asa Leckrone taught school there in 1890. Hepton was another crossroads in this part of the county but so far as we can find out it never had a postoffice. In Etna Township Etna Green was laid out as a new railroad town in 1853 by David Carr and Levi Kehler. Kehler had a store there and in 1854 under Pierce a postoffice was established at Etna Green with Kehler as the postmaster. In Prairie Township Galveston used to be a busy crossroads settlement. It was founded about 1846 by Felix Miller. In 1882 under President Arthur a postoffice was established here at Harley Brothers store. Since there was one Galveston in Cass County the name had to be changed. One day Mr. Harley saw the name Clounette on a tobacco cady. The name of the village became Clunette Gene Harley rode a pony for several years into Leesburg to bring out the mail. Angleton was another postoffice northwest of Clunette. It was at Will Anglin's store. The old building still stands and some postoffice boxes are still preserved. 1889-1900 Angleton.

NORTHEAST PART OF THE COUNTY

In VanBuren Township the village of Milford was founded about 1836 by Judge Aaron M. Perrine and it was first called Perinesville. Four of the streets are named for his children. In 1839 under VanBuren a postoffice was established here with Dr. Nathan Chamberlain as the first postmaster. This postoffice has been continuous ever since. A postoffice once existed at Milford Junction just north of Milford on the B&O Railroad The postoffice name was Shakespeare. Why it was named for the great Bard of Avon we do not know. Leesburg was laid out in 1835 by Levi Lee. Some of the early storekeepers here were Peter L. Runyan, Thomas Thomas, and Michael Horan. It is likely that one of them might have been the first postmaster. Monoquet south of Leesburg on the river was a thriving community in the 1850s and several mills were here along the river. A postoffice was established here and Dr. Taylor was the first postmaster. Later a Mr. Lampson was placed in charge of the office. At Oswego there used to be a postoffice. This is an old community having been started about 1837 by French, Willard & Barbee who had mills there. John Pound had a store there for many years back in the 1890's and the early 1900s and he was the postmaster. Pound was also a school teacher. At Boydston's Mills about a mile south of the present town of North Webster there was a postoffice with Thomas G. Boydston as postmaster. Later it was moved into town and then moved back again. In 1879 Presley Yohn was the postmaster and it is said that a flour barrel was the general delivery. At Syracuse a postoffice was established in early day when it was known as Crosson's Mills. A man named Oliver Cromwell was postmaster at one time. Ira Gans who later became recorder hauled the mails from Vawters Park to Leesburg and back via North Webster. Gans lost both of his hands due to freezing but could write a good hand by holding the pen with his wrists. After rural mail service became available some of these small offices were abandoned.

HARRISON TOWNSHIP.

There was a postoffice established at the home of James Woodden who lived out by Crystal Lake then called Woodden Lake. He was appointed postmaster. This was in 1836. This office was moved later to Palestine and Isam Summy became the postmaster. This has been a milling center since 1838 and was a busy town back in the 1870's. The building of the Nickle Plate Railroad affected Palestine when several of the merchants moved down to the new town of Burket. John Wainwright had a store at Palestine in the 1890s and he was postmaster. Palestine was on a star route out of Warsaw to Beaver Dam. Mr. Meredith used to drive the Beaver Dam hack and haul the mail. There was a postoffice one time at Orion. 1880 This is where the rail road crosses the Tippecanoe River. Mentone was a new town in this Township It was founded about 1882 when the railroad went thru. A postoffice was established there and it has been continuous. Before the railroad went thru a place called Oak Ridge existed about a mile east of the present town. John Johnson was postmaster here in 1879. There used to be a town hall just north of Harrison Center but there was no postoffice. Ira Hovey was the first postmaster at Atwood. This town was founded when the Pennsylvania railroad went thru in 1856. Its first name was Mount Ruska and some called it Deep Cut. The original town was west at the foot of the hill. An office was established here in 1864. T. H. Shatto and Isaac Gerard followed Hovey as postmasters. Later the office was at Rovenstine's store and Cash Rovenstein was the postmaster. The hill at Atwood presented a real problem to the rail road engineers and much excavation was necessary One can see the courthouse dome at Warsaw on a clear day from the upstair of the Atwood school. The Rovenstein Store at Atwood is one of the oldest in the county and is now very modern. Accommodation trains used to stop at Atwood and Etna Green but now diesel engined passengers go thru there 90 miles an hour and the crossing is protected with automatic signals. Yellow Creek postoffice was about a mile west of the present Mentone.

WAYNE AND WASHINGTON TOWNSHIPS.

Outside of Warsaw the only other postoffice ever established in Wayne Township was at Eagle Lake in 1890 with Fred Beyer as postmaster. In 1854 a postoffice was established at Pierceton. Before this there had been a settlement around Ryersons Mills south of the present site of Pierceton. There might have been an office at one time at this place but we have no record of any. The stagecoach from Ft. Wayne used to stop here according to a story written some years ago by Judge Royse. He lived in this vicinity as a boy. Some of the first postmasters at Pierceton were O. P. Smith, Dr. William Hays of the Star Drug Store, Dr. Banta, Mr. Skinner, David Binkley, James Getty, Henry Ruth, John Justice, and D.H. Connell. Pierceton has always had a postoffice and several carriers worked out of this office. Back in the 1850's a village grew up about a mile and a Half west of Pierceton on the railroad. It was called Wooster When a postoffice was established there the name was changed to Kosciusko. Two or three years ago new road 30 was built along the north side of the tracks at Wooster and now thousands of automobiles and trucks pass along the former site of this little village. Nothing is left but the church. There used to be a hall at Wooster called Bakers Hall where entertainments were given. A Mr. VanFleet used to teach there and we have read how the county superintendent went over on the train to give the address on the last day of school. The pupils and the teachers met him at the depot and escorted him to the schoolhouse. Pierceton grew but Wooster died out. Moore's furniture factory and Conrads wagon works used to be at Pierceton many years ago and during the civil war they made walnut gun stocks in Pierceton. Pierceton for many years has had a grist mill and it used to have several saw mills. It was the second largest town in the county but now Mentone and Syracuse are running it a close race.

SOUTH PART OF THE COUNTY

In 1856 a postoffice was established at Sevastopol. This village was founded by John Tucker, George White and John Mollenhour about the time of the Crimean War. For a score of years it was a thriving village with dry goods stores, grocery stores, a hotel, drug stores, two doctors and a blacksmiths shop. The first postmaster here was William Dunlap who had the office at his home ½ miles west of town. Then it was moved to the store of A. J. Whittenberger. He became the new postmaster. He was followed by Dr. A.M.Towle the druggist, C. R. Grubbs, then Dr. Towle again and in 1879 H. C. Riner was postmaster. At Beaver Dam, a village to the south of Sevastopol, the first postmaster was Samuel Rickle who held office from 1844 to 1859. Jonathan Weaver, Mahlon Middleton, Nathan Hagenbrook, and Jonas Leininger followed Mr. Rickle in succession. There was a church and schoolhouse here. Perry Smith taught at Beaver Dam about 1891. In Seward Township an office was established at Burket about 1882 and it has been continuous. The store of W.E.Davis has been at Burket for many years and no doubt the postoffice was at this store at one time. There might have been an office at Yellow Creek Lake at one time but there is no record of it. In Clay Township an office was established at the home of Joshua Leffel, a democrat, in 1840 and this was later moved to Claypool. The office was abolished in 1865 and revived again in 1873 when Claypool was laid out on the Nickle Plate railroad. A. J. Wertenberger had moved his store to Claypool from Sevastopol and the office was at his store. Subsequent postmasters here were H. L. Farmer, Sarah Jamison, Phillip Rhoades, and John Skinner. About 1879 Reuben Beigh was postmaster. Claypool was a sawmill center and a busy village. The CW&M Railroad came thru the village about 1873 and the Nickle Plate about nine years later. In politics this community was democratic.

Samuel Rickel 1st PM Beaver Dam
Started 1-30-1844 Discontinued 6-29-1901 57 years.
at Sweetapple started 5-27-1858
discontinued 3-31-02
Wm Dunlap 1st PM.
L. Rickle has old PO cabinet from BD PO.

1885 Adam Miller PM Packerton
1886 A Rowland PM Rose Hill.

Silver Lake had centennial 1st week
in July, 1959.
Men all wore beards. & of course something else.

LAKE TOWNSHIP.

Lake Township was formed by taking four miles from Clay Township along in the early 1870s. It was caused by the CW&M Railroad. There was a difference of opinion in regard to granting a subsidy to this road. In 1853 Jacob Paulus had a store on the present site of Silver Lake. Hall & Paulus had the first mill in this locality in 1859. In 1864 Joseph Keplinger ~~had the first~~ had the first hotel there. ~~in 1864.~~ The Paulus store was in a log cabin and the first postoffice in the village was at this store. Jacob Paulus was the postmaster and kept the mail in a dry goods box. In 1879 some of the merchants in this town were as follows:

Henry Paulus	Boots, shoes and hats.
H. J. Conner & Sons Perry Jaques Mock Forest	General stores
Finton & Jontz John Kerlin	Grocery stores
John Bilger	Agricultural inplements
William Boulton Alvin Robinson P.J.Burket	Drug Stores
Smith & Farwell	Hardware
Decker & Haney	Marble works
Adam Hill et al	Carriage works
Yotter Brothers	Grist mill, saw mill and broom handle factory.
O. B. Turner	Photographer
J. W. Hawley	Furniture
A. McClure	Bakery

From this we see that this town was a going place even at this early date. The name at first was Silver Lakeville but this was shortened to Silver Lake. The postoffice has been continuous at this place for many years.

In November 1905 the PO at Rose Hill was abandoned and the PM at Silver Lake took charge of all stamps etc. The PM at Rose was Henry Kreamer. Rose Hill was where the Michigan Branch of th CCC&StL crossed the south line of Kosciusko County.

BAD WRECK THERE ONCE ON THE BIG 4.

X Father of Fannie Stevens.

SOUTHEAST PART OF THE COUNTY

In the 1850s there was a postoffice called Farmers in Monroe Township Hiram Ingram Stevens was a postmaster at his house in this township about this time. Mr. Steven used to haul freight from Ft. Wayne to towns to the west, Larwell, Pierceton, and Warsaw. This was in the days before there was a railroad. George Moore Sr. followed Stevens as postmaster and then in 1861 F.P.Sellers was placed in charge. In 1862 the office was abandoned In Jackson Township there used to be a postoffice at Dodgertown. This was a village about two miles east of the present town of Sidney. The Koontzs had a cheese factory here along the Mary Koontz ditch. Then later there was a town of Kinzie just to the south on the new railroad and no doubt there was an office here. Sidney was founded in the 1880s and there has been an office there continuously. Packerton is an old settlement dating even before the railroad came thru. It was a sawmill center named after John Packer who lived there. Seventy-five years ago it was a busy place and even in the 1890s there were several stores there. James Stage had a drug store there and at one time was postmaster. Mr. Lucas, father of Homer Lucas, had a store there for many years. Now it is a town of the past and nothing is left but the church which is a very good building. A place known as Rose Hill used to exist on the south county line and it no doubt had an office. It is on the CW&M. A big wreck occurred here some years ago. A freight conductor was given an order at Warsaw that 2nd No. 6 would run ½ an hour late. His thumb covered 2nd and he thought No. 6 would run ½ hour late. The two trains met just this side of Rose Hill and caused one of the worst wrecks the company ever had on this branch. This covers about all the villages that have ever existed in this county. It would be interesting to have a complete list of all persons who have served as postmaster in all of these places to date.

23-46 4

Brief History of the

Warsaw Postoffice.

G.A.N.

1953

Preliminary Remarks

The postoffice was about the only direct connection that Warsaw or any other town of its size had with the Federal Government in days gone by. Now it has several more through Income Taxes Federal Road etc. The postmastership was and still is quite a political plum to give to some man who has been a devout party worker for years. This applies to all who have had it except perhaps John N. Runyan who was given it more because of his loss of a lower limb than for any other reason. Had he never been wounded as he was he perhaps would have become a college professor for he was a good student. The place where the office was to be was also a matter of party affiliation for if someone of the right political faith had a vacant room for rent public sentiment always swung towards his emolument. Thus we see that the office swung back and forth from Center Street to Market or South Buffalo Street all thru the years from ~~1837~~ 1845 to 1930. No sooner would a new party get in power than the adherents of that party would get together to frame up a man for the postoffice job. It seemed to be a job that took no particular training for we have seen grocerymen, baggagemen, cigar makers, lawyers, tailors, doctors, etc. put in office. In this history we tract the postoffice from 1837 when Squire Baker could have carried all the mail in his hat to the presrnt time when the postmaster has under his direction more or less probably thirty employees. We admit that our resources to draw from in this history are very meagre and regret that we cannot give more data about the postoffice first handed.

Since the first office was founded in Warsaw February 11, 1837 23 men have held the office and the office has been in about 18 different places ranging from doctors offices, to tailor shops, dry goods stores, drug stores, etc. Perhaps the first office to be nothing more than a postoffice was that of Peter L. Runyan beginning in the spring of 1861. He had it in a small room on South Buffalo street just south of the SE corner of Market and Buffalo streets. By this time there may have been collected considerable postoffice furniture. After this date the office was never an annex to any store but was an institution in itself. The names of the postmasters and their time of appointment is as follows:

Jacob Baker	Feb. 11, 1837.
Dr. George W. Stacy had a store	Oct. 19, 1841.
Wm. C. Graves	July 16, 1842.
Silas V. Miller Esq	June 2, 1845.
Ern N. Vandermark	July 31, 1845
Harvey W. Upson	April 23, 1849.
Geo. W. Scott	Feb. 23, 1853.
Thos. L. Graves	July 11, 1855.

Pennsylvania Railroad built thru town

Wm. C. Gordon	July 11, 1855.
Dr. Theodore W. Strain	August 20, 1860.

Civil War Commenced

Peter L. Runyan	Mar. 29, 1861.
A. G. Wood	Nov. 2, 1866.
John Runyan	Mar. 9, 1867.
W. H. Bowser	Aug. 2, 1886.
Geo. Bennett	Nov. 12, 1889.
W. D. Alleman	Oct. 6, 1893.
C. B. Bentley	Oct. 22, 1897.
Bob Nelson	Feb. 27, 1906.
Gene Alleman	Apr. 29, 1910.
L. C. Wann	May 4, 1914.
O. B. Kilmer	Jan. 30, 1923.
Charlie Anglin	About 1933.
Roy Bowen D march 54	July, 1939
Frank Rarick	Apr. 1, 1954

23-49 4

HISTORY OF THE WARSAW POSTOFFICE

1837-1841

In 1874 I. J. Morris writing under the pen name of Greybeard said that the first postmaster in this county was John B. Chapman and that he had the office at his home east of Leesburg. (then part of Elkhart Co.) He was appointed as such by Andrew Jackson. Jackson was a personal friend of Chapman. It was Chapman who founded the town of Warsaw, named the county, and named the county seat. Chapman went back to Washington to get a postoffice established in this county. In a letter from Arch Coleman, First Assistant Postmaster General, 1931 the writer was given the names of all the postmasters that have ever held office in town. First on the list is the name of Jacob Baker. He was appointed February 11, 1837 when Warsaw was just a cluster of a few log cabins (7 families here 1837 agreed written Bing.) Vanburen was then president. Baker served until October 19, 1841 a little more than four years, and eight months. Baker was known as Squire Baker and ran a hotel where the Christian Science church is now located on the southwest corner of Detroit and Main Streets. The name of Martin Vanburen appears on many of the preemption papers for land in this vicinity. Baker notaried most of our earliest deeds to Warsaw property. Bakers time as postmaster saw Warsaw a village of a few houses in the redbrush. Ludlow Nye used to say that in 1839 there were only three industrious men in Warsaw and they were thinking about going somewhere else! Monoquet, Leesburg and Oswego were larger towns at this time. Warsaw was laid out in the fall of 1836 and the landowners left here so that the sale of lots did not go forward until some years later. The corner around Bakers tavern was then the main part of town. It was from this corner that the boys in 1847-8 left for the Mexican War in wagons. for Peru

1841-1845

October 19, 1841 George W. Stacy was made postmaster. At this time John Tyler was president. Stacy held the office about eight months until July, 1842. In an article published in 1878 Judge Carpenter said: "Dr. George W. Stacy came here from Wayne County, Ohio very early. He was a most peculiar man, speaking but seldom, and that but little above a whisper. He had a good knowledge of medicine but was the most bigoted physician I ever knew. I do not think he would ever have advanced an inch had he lived to be 100 years old. He imagined that the medical profession had in his day reached perfection. As a citizen he was uprig upright and much respected. For a long time he was school commissioner. He moved to Iowa in 1854." Carpenter at that time 1841 was also a doctor. Later he became a lawyer. It might be that Stacy was a whig and Tyler was a democrat for July 16, 1842 William C. Graves was appointed to succeed Stacy. Graves was a democrat. He had come from Virginia and had been deputy clerk in Elkhart County for Thomas Thomas. Graves was an excellent writer and was one of our first school teachers In 1840 he was elected Clerk of this county when the courthouse was a two roomed frame building at the northeast corner of Indiana and Center streets. Graves no doubt had the postoffice at the courthouse. Later he was in the State legislature and was also a merchant, and the founder in part of the old First National Bank later the State Bank Graves kept the postmastership until June 2, 1845 when Silas V. Miller took the office. Reub Williams who came to town about this time mentions a squire Miller as having a store. This was about the date that they began to use the new courthouse, the first one built on the public square. Something must have happened for Miller turned the office over to Ern N. Vandermark July 31, 1845. Polk was now president.

1845 to 1860

Ern N. Vandermark became postmaster July 31, 1845. He was in office almost four years. Polk served four years and turned the place over to General Taylor. Unfortunately we do not know anything about Vandermark. After Taylor became president Harvey W. Upson was appointed postmaster and took office April 23, 1849. He served until February 23, 1853. Upson was a tailor and a good singer. He was once on the school board and he was one of Chipman, Funk and Co. who had a store for several years in the Phoenix Block. It is likely that he had the postoffice at his tailor shop. Warsaw was still a village. Amos Kist came to town in May, 1851 and he said at that time there were only 150 people here and less than forty voters. During the 1850's there was rapid growth helped along by the coming of the railroad from the east. G. W. Scott (Sheriff in 1857) was a merchant here and he held the office only a short time from February 23rd to April 30th 1853 when Thomas L. Graves took the office. Graves was a democrat. ~~that~~ He had a store opposite the Popham or Pelton Hotel. Pierce was now president and Buchanan followed him. Graves kept the office until July 11, 1855. The postoffice at this time must have been at his store, however, about this time in the century it was at Tharall's (old watch) drug store which was east of the courthouse until the fall of 1857 when it was moved to Thrall's new building now the Interstate building. Under Buchanan William C. Gordon was made postmaster and he had a store on Buffalo St. south of the corner where the bank is now Gordon was postmaster under Buchanan and was dismissed August 20, 1860. Gordon was grandfather of the late Gord Rutter. He was a brother of S. C. Gordon of Loney & Gordon who ran the Crystal Palace here in the 60's. He was a brother of John Gordon who founded the Christian Church here and lived where Mrs. Bash now lives. Stamps first came into use when Gordon was postmaster. He used to wear a wig. S.C.Gordon was deputy surveyor under George R. Thralls.

During the Civil War

Gordon held the office until August 20, 1860 when it was turned over to Theodore W. Strain who was a doctor. Strain had an office opposite east of the public square. In 1857 he ~~had~~ ran ~~run~~ the Crystal Palace founded by Loney and Gordon. Strain was a democrat and he and Buchanan ~~wne~~ went out of office at about the same time. March 29, 1861, shortly after Lincoln became president, Peter L. Runyan, an elderly gentleman, was appointed postmaster and he held the place until Nov. 2, 1866 after the war was over and after Johnson had become president. In 1860 Peter L. Runyan had a store in the Union Block, a frame building south of the courthouse and just west of the alley. John Chapman once said This burned down because Betsy Dineen, the hired girl for Chapmans, put some hot ashes ina tobacco cady. A keg of powder exploded in the fire which also helped it along. The store that Runyan owned was desetroyed. Chapman owned the building. This left Mr. Runyan in straightened circumstances and the position as postmaster was very welcome. Runyan was an oldtimer about town and back in the 1840's was in charge of the three per cent fund. He had also operated a sawmill on the west shore of Center Lake getting his logs over the new railroad. He was the father of John N. Runyan who had volunteered and had gone to war. Runyan had the postoffice in a small frame building on the east side of South Buffalo street known in later years as Perry Brown's meat market. Runyan had palsy and his head would shake back and forth. Semeramis Cowan said she used to go to the office for mail as a girl and Runyan would always shake his head and she thought he meant that there was no mail. Once she got a long tube thru the mail and he ~~told here~~ said "Semaramis, you do get the funniest letters." Nov. 2, 1866 A. G. Wood followed Runyan as postmaster. He was a democrat

The Town in 1860-66.

During the Civil War when Peter L Runyan was postmaster the town had a population of about 1500. South of his postoffice was a hotel on the alley and across the alley a frame building in which used to be Peter Marvin's grocery. On south next to the railroad was the Aborn home. Across the street lived Andrew Nye. Going north there were frame buildings more or less to the Market Street where sat the old Republican building. The Phoenix Block was built north of the alley in this section of the town about this time. North of Runyan's room was a frame building in which Johnny Lane had his jewelry store. East of this was a yard in which there was an apple tree. On the alley was a frame building in which the old First National Bank used to be. On east was the home of Billy Williams where the Opera House was built in 1874. On the west side of Buffalo street from Market north to the alley stretched the new six front Empire Block in the north end of which was William's Hall, the entertainment center for this period. This big building burned in January, 1871. On the corner north was the Boss Building, the first brick building in town, built in 1849 by Moon & Cosgrove. Burgess & Gilmore had a bookstore here. East across the street was the Graves room built in 1854 later known as Shane's corner and now as Judd's drug store. Center street was lined with frame buildings including two hotels, The Wright House and Pelton's Exchange, both on the north side. Warsaw was a growing town but the war set it back because it drained away most of the younger men. Little improving was done during this period. It was a town of wooden sidewalks, no street lights, no show windows, poor streets, plenty of rats and dogs, cows, chickens, pigs etc. running over the streets, and no fire protection except a pumper depending on cisterns for water supply.

Warsaw in the Year 1865

The year 1865 will long be remembered for the death of President Lincoln and the close of the Civil War. In April, 1865 while the President was attending Ford's Theatre in Washington he was shot by an assassin. He died April 15. The files of the local papers skip copies from February to May, valuable copies that can never be replaced. A great deal is said about troops returning to town. April 9, 1865 General Lee had surrendered to General Grant all that remainded of his army which had dwindled to 27000. The fourth of July in Warsaw was a gala day. Gen. Reub Williams at the head of the returned soldiers led the march to the fair grounds which were called the new fair grounds just east of Scott street. The committee on general arrangements for the day consisted of Theodore Davenport, J. B. Dodge, M. C. Furlong, A. F. Leamon and Bram Funk. Committee for getting a speaker and someone to read the Declaration of Independence was H. C. Rippey of the Indianian; Walter Scott, teacher and minister; and E. G. Burgess of the book firm of Burgess and Gilmore. Committee to defray expenses was Charlie Card, Ancil Ball, I. A. Miller, Andy Millice, and Thomas McKee, proprietor of McKee's bakery. Committee in charge of soldiers and uniforms was Colonel Dodge, Col. Chapman, Major Hubler, Capt. Milice and Col. Reub Williams who for gallant and meritorious service had recently been promoted to Brigadier-General by President Johnson. Williams belonged to the 12th Indiana Regiment. A salute was fired with cannon at sunrise. Bands were present in uniform. After the march to the grounds the program was carried out with Hon. Isaac Jenkinson of Ft. Wayne as the speaker. John N. Runyan, who had lost a limb in the war, was in charge of a leamonade stand. Wounded veterans were hauled to the grounds in cabs. At sunset 13 guns were fired. In the evening there were fireworks and a general good time. It might be said that before this there had been a general holiday declared on June 1. This was in honor of the returned soldiers.

The year 1865 opened with Fleming T. Luce in charge of the Northern Indianian. The publishing rooms were in the third story of White's Block which is still standing and which we know as the Candy Kitchen Corner. Late in the fall of 1864 Henry C. Rippey took charge. He was born and reared up around Leesburg. On Sunday morning August 6, 1865 he records that he walked to Leesburg and from there went out to the dedication of the Methodist Church on the Bone Prairie corner west of Oswego. He recounts that he could not get in for the great crowd that was there so he stayed outside and reministed. He remembered when there was an Indian village a short distance north of the present church. Near the village was a trading house run by a Frenchman named Reed who married a squaw. Dotted about were a few cabins built by the whites. Chasing deer and wild turkeys were sports of those days. In Leesburg he went to church that evening and said he remembered the first schoolhouse in town on Lot 6. It had a long window in the side with a single row of glass. The east end was occupied by a stick chimney and fireplace. In this they could burn wood six or eight feet long. Puncheons were used for floors and for seats. There was a clapboard roof. There was a rough board stand for the preacher. Tallow candles were used for light. It was in this schoolhouse that the commissioners met before adjourning to Losure's Hotel at Warsaw. This was in 1836.

If we are to believe the reports of Ye Editor who was more or less of a minister of the Gospel Warsaw in 1865 was a saloon infested town where there was much drinking of hard liquor, many drunks on the streets, and a place where children of tender years were heard to use profanity and were known to insult women on the streets. Every issue of his paper mentions these things and calls for reform. Nearly every issue of the paper had notices in concerning men of "good moral character" who wanted a license to sell liquor. It was necessary to specify the exact description of the site on which it was to be sold. There was at least one saloon down by the depot on Union Street. Reuben Kiver of Palestine wanted a license to sell liquor on Lot 68 at the corner of First and Miami Streets in Palestine. George Hazen was to sell on the east end of Lot 44 in Warsaw which would be back of Stephenson's store today. William L. Kintzel on Lot 21 in Atwood. License to sell was granted by the County Commissioners.

1865 was the days when there was a great deal of roughness. Fist fights were common and the crowd did not try to pacify the fighters. Shindigs were held in some persons home the dancing going on with drinking until the wee small hours of the morning and the whole affair ending up in a row. A shindig was rough dance for which some local fiddlers were secured. Fiddling became so unpopular that some people when giving money for a church said they would give it if no fiddle was ever allowed in the building. 1865 was the day of much eating for food was plentiful. Hunting and fishing were still good round about town. Saturday night, according to the editor, the young people would get rough and go on a bender. The main streets of the town would be littered with boxes and otherwise torn up. It was considered a prank to get in some church at 2 o'clock at night and ring the bell or go down the ~~ste~~ street crying out some false startling news that was designed to get the people up out of bed. Once on north Lake street some youngsters soft soaped the front porch where a shindig was going on and then cried "Fire, fire". Women came out in their dancing clothes and slipped to a quick seat to the great merriment of the pranksters who were ~~hid~~ hidden behind nearby trees. The soft soap escapade no doubt abated the terpeschorian exercises that were going on inside. Haunted houses came in for their share of excitement. Chairs were seen to move away from the table at one large house on West Market Street where Dr. Dederick lived some years ago. People paid a quarter to get in. One evening when the house was fairly filled with curious spectators and the seance had proceeded almost to the terrifying climax Ed Nichols and some other boys lambasted the side of the house with some siding and rattled the windows with small stones. Out came the women, children and men on the run, some of them climbing thru the windows; others thru any opening that offered an exit!

Horse racing on Sunday was common. This took place either on horseback or the horse may be hitched to a rig of some kind. Prominent men had their race horses which tried out on the track at the Fair Grounds. Rat killings always drew a crowd. One is mentioned as taking place back of the Kirtley Hotel. Rats would be released one at a time from a wire pen trap. The rat was scarcely outside the cage until one of the several dogs had him. Rats harbored under the wooden sidewalks. In the spring of the year the streets and alleys would be full of the winter's accumulation of trash so that rats had an abundance of places in which to live. One who reads the papers of the day is glad that he lives now when he can live a richer and fuller life than was possible around Warsaw 81 years ago.

The New Postoffice

The new postoffice was built while Mr. Kilmer was postmaster and while the office was in the two east rooms of the Opera House Block. It had been here for perhaps 10 years. Orville Kilmer had had experience as a city carrier and made a very capable postmaster. The site on which the new office was built is historical. In the 1830's Reub Williams says that the store of W. J. Pope was on this corner. It was made of tamarack poles out of the swamp east of Detroit Street which used to be a dismal place. Reub Says the Indians used to trade at Pope's store. During the Civil War days the home an office of Dr. J. K. Leedy was on this corner. He went to war and wa a surgeon. He died in 1876 of lung fever. His house was moved to the north next to the alley when Dr. Bash and his wife Elizabeth Wallace Bash (daughter of Washington Wallace) built their fine mansion on this corner about ~~1876~~. 1881 1882. Bash came here as a young doctor from Fayette County, Indiana. He was then 29 years old. Bash built a very beautiful and artistic stone fence around his house using the same kind of stone that the new courthouse was being built from. His house was heated by a furnace out in the furnace room some distance northwest of the house. Pipes conducted hot water thru a tunnel. He burned wood from his farm. He was a prominent doctor and was interested in race horses. Al Means, a negro, at tended to his barn. Wallace and Flint Bash were the two children of the Bashes. Lettie Helms was the faithful housekeeper, having been with Mrs. Bash before her marriage. I used to take care of Bash's horse and the furnace and the lawn during my highschool days ~~1907~~ ~~19107~~ 1902 to ~~1911~~ 1907. ~~I recieved the handsom sum of $1.00 a week. The doctor could have afforded to have left me a hundred or two when he died for it was a lot of work for $1.00,~~ ~~every morning & every evening 7 days a week~~

Other places considered for PO Ca 1926.

John N. Runyan

A. G. Wood was a young democrat lawyer around town just after the end of the war. He held the office about four months from November 2, 1866 to March 9, 1867. The returned soldiers brought pressure to bear and Capt. John N. Runyan, son of Peter L. Runyan became postmaster and remained in office till August 2, 1886 almost 20 years. During these years the Republicans held sway under Grant, Hayes, Garfield & Arthur, Cleveland was the first democrat to get in after the war and he was in from 1884 to 1888. Wood had the postoffice south of the courthouse down near Lake street. Runyan had it on Market street in a room across from the First National Bank, a site which would now be east of Phillipsons. Then later he moved to a room around on Center street where is now the Stephenson store. 2nd Room w of alley Brick buildings took the place of many old frames during the time Runyan was in office. Warsaw became a city in 1876 A new courthouse was built 1882-4, water works took the place of cisterns, more durable sidewalks were built, and the old town began to put on a city appearance. Runyan had volunteered in the war and at the battle of Kenesha Mountain in Georgia was ~~hit~~ struck in the knee ~~with~~ by a rebel minie ball and he had to lose his limb. His father went south and got him from Nashville to Cincinnati with the help of negroes and from there on they brought him home on a train. His amputated limb always gave him trouble. Runyan was an eduvated man and gave lectures. He started a reading room here. He was a fine looking man and must have been a good soldier. He died about ~~1950~~ 12-25-24. For many years he lived just south of the tracks on the east side of Indiana street. I used to visit with him on his front porch and he would relate his experiences in the war. Under Cleveland William H. Bowser was appointed postmaster. Bowser was a democrat and a groceryman.

John N. Runyan 1867-1886.

John Runyan was a son of Peter L. Runyan. He was born in Warsaw, April 26th 1846. He died Christmas morning 1924. John was one of the first to volunteer for the war although he had to prevericate somewhat about his age. He distinguished himself in the war and at the battle of Kenesaw Mountain, Georgia June 15, 1864 he was struck in the knee by a minie ball and this necessitated the amputation of his leg. He was taken to Nashville where his father met him and with the help of negroes got him to Cincinnat where he was taken on board the cars and brought home. The wound was in hi right knee and the operation was performed at "Big Shanty" that same evening. Runyan was a man who coveted an education and often lectured here in the county. He started a reading room here after the war realizing the need of such a place for this community. Runyan had the postoffice in a room which would now be east of Phillipsons on Market Street and then late it was moved around to Center Street two doors west of Kirtley's Hotel. The move into Raymond's room took place on January 1, 1876. On Market Street the office was directly opposite the First National Bank. Once the citizens though this bank was to be robbed in 1875 and they hid in the office armed with all kinds of fighting equipment. It proved to be a hoax. Meta Milice was one of the helpers in the office during Mr. Runyan's time. On Center Street there was a goldfish aquarium placed in the lobby of the office which was quite an attraction. When the Wright House burned in 1883 the fire threatened the postoffice so much that Runyan moved the equipment over into Bob Hickman's saloon across the street. Hickman said it was alright with him for he knew that the town could get along without a saloon better than it could without a postoffice. The Runyans, we might say, during these 20 years were counted as one of the 400 of Warsaw and attended the functions sponsored by the highest society the town afforded. The Runyan home was on South Indiana on the east side just south of the railroad.

John N. Runyan

It was during the time of Runyan as postmaster that there were many small postoffice scattered about over the county and mail was hauled out to them. The ~~process~~ routes was called ~~a~~ star routes. There were postoffices at Palestine and Beaver Dam. To the northwes there were offices at Galveston (Clunette) and Angleton. Here ~~Wash~~ Wile Anglin had a store and the postoffice was in the store. The old building is still there and some of the office boxes. It was northwest of Stoney Point. There were postoffices at Farmers, Wooster, Kinsey, and ~~maybe~~ one at Dadgertown. These lasted until rural mail service began about the close of the century. It was during Runyans time that the Wright House burned and the fire threatened the postoffice. Runyan moved it over into Bob Hickman's saloon and Bob favored the idea in saying that the town could get along without one of its saloons better than it could without one of its postoffices. During these years the south side of Center Street was built with brick rooms beginning at Shanes corner and going east. Down on the corner east of the office the Wigwam was built in 1872 and this became the town hall until the Opera House was built in 1874. Runyan had much to do with this building. In January 1876 the office moved to Center Street into the Haymond roo two doors west of the Kirtley hotel and one door east of Grabners hardware store where Pierce's millinery store had been. Emma Milice was the clerk. In 1877 mail clerks began to run on the railroad. Milton Burket was one of the first. Runyan had a fish aquarium in his ~~room~~ postoffice lobby which created some interest. Routes ran to Goshen, Rochester, Wabash and South Whitley. The postmastership must have been an interesting post during the time Mr. Runyan was in office.

The 1890's.

When Cleveland was elected president in 1884 it was quite evu evident that the political complexion of the country had changed and waving the bloody shirt by the Republicans had become old. He was the first democrat to be elected after the war. It was under Cleveland that Bowser became postmaster in Warsaw ~~here~~ August 2nd 1886 and held the place till November 12, 1889. Mr. Bowser was a former groceryman well along in years at this time. He was the father of Lucy, Maud and Ed. Lucy used to help some in the office. In the summer of 1890 the office was moved to the corner room in the Moon Block which was a good location between the two depots. This building was only 22 years old at the time. When Harrison became president George W. Bennett became postmaster. He was the son of George Bennett who in years gone by had written for the Northern Indianian under the pen name of Bascom. Geo. Bennett Sr had a store on Buffalo street south of Moons grocery for many years. George Jr. was a promising young man of the day and studied law. He later married Mary Nelson the sister of Robert Nelson, and Mary Bennett for several years was the womens chairman in the Republican party in this county.

The time of Bennett lasted only until Cleveland was reelected when on October 6, 1893 W. D. Alleman was given the place. Alleman had been a groceryman in the Opera House Block. He was a prominent Methodist, the superintendent of their afternoon Sunday school. The country at the time was in the throes of the Panic of 1893 which was one of the worst that we ever experienced. Bob Long, a brother of Mrs. Kutz, was one of the helpers at the office and Anna Scollard was window girl. It was still the day before free delivery so the office was crowded on Saturdays with farmers coming in after their mail and after school, all the kids flocked into the office to see what might be there for their parents. Holbrooks had the

contract for carrying the mail. It was an everyday affair to see Clark or Fred driving the mule team to the transfer wagon and, if late, they were going down the street at a fast gait. Alleman built the large house on Park Avenue at Clark street and had a fruit orchard. The Allemans had several children. Orville Kilmer married the eldest daughter.

Alleman transferred the place to Charles B. Bentley October 22, 1897. It was about this time that Allemans went into their new room just west of the Hays Hotel and had the finest grocery store in town. C. B. Bentley had been a cigar maker and had had a store on West Market Street. McKinley and Hobart were elected in 1896 and the republicans were in again. Under Bentley the office was moved back to Center Street one door east of Chapman's corner cigar store. There was also an entrance on Buffalo street. This made a handy arrangement. The postoffice was robbed once while it was here. It was under Bentley in July, 1899 that the rural mail service was started out of town. The first carriers were Milo James, Will McCarter, George Foster, and Norman Haymond. James went west on Route 2. McCarter went east. Foster had a route north and Haymond south. It was a long ways between stops. Each recieved a salary of $600.00 a year. They had to furnish their horses and a mail wagon. One horse could pull it in the summer but it took two when the roads were bad. Jerry and Paul and Milton Zimmer soon followed as carriers, Paul taking Route 4 and Zimmer 6. Salaries improved and motorcycles were used and then automobiles Elmer Vandermark was about the first mail carrier to use a car. He lived at Palestine. His old car was shown as a relic for years. Elmer Harter, Farmer Quackenbush and Orville Kilmer were the first three mail carriers in Warsaw. When it started about 1902 every house was supposed to have a steel mail box out in front and where there were no sidewalks there was to be no service.

The 1890's

When the postoffice was in the corner room of the Moon Block Bob Nelson was agent for the express company and his office was west of the State Bank corner and just east of Webber's hardware store. Much express would be waiting here towards evening to go out on the evening trains No. 9 west and No. 8 east. Clark Holbrook would pick it up with the transfer wagon drawn by a team of mules. Many cases of strawberries would be shipped in strawberry season. I remember once of seeing a barrel with holes in the side and on looking in found it full of great big turtles. It was probably going to some city hotel where they served choice turtle soup. About the only factory in town in those days that would send anything by express was the DePuy Splint Factory on the southwest corner of Columbia and Center Street. It was started in the 1890's. There was a wooden platform built out in front of the express office for loading and unloading. The gutter was the usual cobblestone gutter. Ott Stoners cigar store and Huffman's or Sandy Rannels saloon was across the street and east of the express office was Loveday's tailor shop. Lovedays came here in 1882. In the 1890's there were three passenger trains each way on the Big Four and about 8 on the Pennsylvania. Busses made these trains and took people to and from the hotels, the Hays House and the White House. Buck Evers, Jim White and Noble Wolford were some of the drivers. They would cry out "Bus and baggage to any part of the city". Their horses were used to the ~~ra~~ trains and so did not run away, however, if ~~a train~~ an engine came in blowing off steam the driver quickly mounted to the seat to be on the guard. A telegraph operator was always on duty at the Pennsylvania depot but there was none all night at the Big 4. Train orders had to be given out and a signal light or semaphore was over the tracks showing green or red. or arm out or arm down.

Early years of the century.

February 27, 1906 Robert W. Nelson became postmaster. Bentley had been in about nine years. The town now had a second class postoffice made so under Bentley and city delivery had started in December, 1900. The office had been moved down to South Buffalo street into the Graves room 3rd S. of State Bank. Many changes had come about in Warsaw. There had been a new sewer put in in 1901-2 and street paving had gone ahead uptown. The paving began in February 1904 at the Pennsylvania tracks on Buffalo Street. A new high school was built in 1904-5 where Bram Funk had ~~fr~~ formerly lived. Interurban lines had come to town from Goshen and Peru and Winona Lake had become a popular ~~c~~ chautaqua center. Charlie Nye, who had a clothing store, one door south of the State Bank was instrumental in getting the postoffice moved back to South Buffalo street. The Graves room made a good place for it for it reached back to the alley. During the time of Bentley and Nelson McKinley and ~~Taft~~ Teddy Roosevelt were the two presidents. April 29, 1910 Eugene Alleman, a republican, took the office. Taft followed Roosevelt as president. Alleman was in until May 4, 1914 when he was followed by L. C. Wann, a democrat. The Republican Party. The country had gone democratic with Wilson as President because of the Bull Moose split. Wann was in during the First World War. The office was moved to the East room of the Opera House Block Nov. 1, 1918 where it remained until the new postoffice was built on Lake and Market Streets in 1930-1. On Jan. 30, 1923 Orville Kilmer, who had been to the war and had ~~become a~~ climbed to the rank of colonel, was placed in as postmaster. He served until Charlie Anglin was appointed by F.D.R. about 1934. Anglin was too old legally to be postmaster and was acting postmaster until sickness struck him about 1939 when Roy Bowen was appointed and he has been in for the last 13 years. Mr. Bowen for many years had been a city carrier.

HISTORY OF THE WARSAW POST OFFICE FROM 1861 to 1900.

On the 9th day of March, 1861 Peter L. Runyan was appointed postmaster by Abraham Lincoln. Runyan had been a resident of the town for twenty-two years having moved here from Leesburg about 1839. When the question concerning the county seat came up so strong in the forties he threw his influence with the anticlippers, those who wanted Warsaw to be the favored spot. On his first arrival here he was landlord of the Losier Hotel at the southwest corner of Lake and Center Streets. Runyan also was in the legislature where he represented the anticlippers. He became commissioner of the three per cent fund, a fund used to build roads and bridges. He was Commissioner of the Surplus Revenue Fund for 1838, collector of taxes for this county in 1839, and County Agent from 1843 to 1849. While holding this position he superintended the building of the first courthouse on the public square. He was always active. For several years he had a steam sawmill on Lake Street near where Clyde Clark now lives. In the sixties he was in business opposite south from the courthouse where the Peashwa Building is now. This was called the Central Block and in January 1861 it burned down. Runyan lost heavily in this fire so the position as postmaster came to the old gentleman as a friend in need. Runyan had the postoffice on South Buffalo Street just south of the present Moon Block. The room was a small room for the building was a one story frame known in the nineties as Perry Brown's Meat Market. The office was here most of the time until July 2, 1868 when it was moved to a brick building on Market Street just east of where Phillipsons are now. This room was owned by C. W. Chapman. There were eighteen postoffices in Kosciusko County in 1862.

November 2, 1866 A. G. Wood was appointed postmaster under Andy Johnson. He held down the office until the 9th day of March, 1867 or a period of about four months. He had just returned from the army and was known as Captain A. G. Wood. The appointment was not one that aroused much enthusiasm among the returned veterans of the Civil War and when Andy Johnson went back to his tailor shop (according to the Indianian) A. G. Wood went back to his law books. In casting about for a new postmaster public sentiment seemed to fall on Captain John N. Runyan, son of Peter L. Runyan. Congress would not approve of Wood's appointment

John N. Runyan had left Warsaw a few years before as a volunteer in Lincoln's army. He had made a brilliant record in the war and at one time when his captain was injured he, as first lieutenant, assumed command altho he was a boy yet in his teens. He was a soldier in every sense of the word, being athletic in built, tall and straight, handsome in appearance, and a natural leader of men. He became acquainted with many of the men of high rank who were in cammand of the northern armies. In 1864 at the Battle of Kenesaw Mountain in Georgia he was struck in the leg by a minnie-ball at Bright Hospital Cincinnati. His father went south and succeeded with difficulty in getting him to ~~Louisville~~ Cincinnati. He hired negroes to help him. Captain Runyan finally arrived back home where he was tenderly taken care of. Several times his limb had to be reamputated. Even to the end of his life about seven years ago the limb gave him much trouble. On returning from the South he was known as an interesting speaker. In 1866 he started a reading room in the second story of the Phoenix Block, a forerunner of our public library. He was one of the proprietors of the Opera House Block when it was built in 1874. In the nineties he was identified with the G. B. Lesh Factory. For years he lived on Indiana Street on the east side just south of the railroad. He was a member of the Methodist Church.

Captain Runyan became postmaster March 9, 1867 soon after General Grant had become President and the whole country had been taken charge of by the strong Republican Party. He held the office until August 2, 1886, a period of 19 years, 4 months and 23 days. During these years the postoffice was for the most part in two different locations. From July 2, 1868 until January, 1876 it was on Market Street as was said before. From this room the office was moved around on Center Street into Edgar Haymond's room "one door east of Grabner's Hardware where Pierce's Millinery Store has been." Here the office remained until about ~~1886~~ Summer of 1890 when ~~Bowser~~ Allerman was postmaster in the Moon Block. For many years Emma Milice was Runyan's able and courteous assistant. In 1883 a big fire destroyed the Wright House on the corner west of the postoffice. It was thought that the fire would reach Uncle Sam8s room but it did not. However, when the flames were roaring the citizens moved the postoffice across the street into Bob Hickman's saloon where it remained a short time until it could be returned, [illegible]

Many changes came about in Warsaw during the years that Captain Runyan was postmaster. With the coming of the north and south railroad in 1870 much of the stage service was done away with. This road was built from the north and reached here in the summer of 1870. During the next few years it was continued on to Wabash. From our postoffice at this time, however, there were several star routes to Galveston (Clunette), Palestine, Angleton, Oswego, North Webster, and other places. The star route to Angleton was by way of Harley's Store at Galveston. Angleton was just northwest of Stoney Point Church. Here Will Anglin had a store in a building still standing in one corner of which the postoffice boxes may still be seen. PO 1884 to 1900 Small towns such as Wooster, Dodgertown, and Orion were busy places in the seventies. Dr. A. W. Towle was postmaster at Sevatopol and Dr Pearman was at Palestine. Ben Yohn had the office at Boydston's Mills, just south of the present town of North Webster.

During the ~~time~~ first years that Runyan was in office there was no Nickle Plate Road through the south part of our County. This was not built until in 1882-3. There was a church and schoolhouse where ~~Sidney~~ just S Burket is now, and the same at the present site of Mentone. ~~Half way~~ ½ mi a ½ future town between Palestine and Mentone in Harrison Township was Oak Ridge Post Office.& Store run by J. F. Johnson. Yellow Creek Post Office was just West of the present site of Mentone. There were postoffices at Hepton and Millwood in Scott Township. Valentine Hammond had a store at Millwood and he was postmaster. This place got its name from the fact that there was much timber there and a sawmill. There was a postoffice at Rose Hill on the south County Line. A postoffice at Fairview in Monroe Township had been discontinued in the 60's. F. P. Sellers had been PM. From 1865 to 1873 the PO at Claypool was abolished but reestablished in 73 with Reuben Beigh as PM. and later A. J. Whittenberger. There had been a postoffice at Beaver Dam since 1844. It was at the house of Samuel Rickle. In 1879 the po was on Section 31 and Jonas Leininger was PM. Since 1857 there had been an office at Sevastopol. During the war it was at the store of A. J. Whittenberger. Later Dr. A.M.Towl was PM and then H.C.Riner. In 1879 this village had four stores, an undertaker and furniture dealer, a boot & shoe manufacturer, blacksmith's shop, wagon shop, flour mill, and a saw mill. Two physicians resider there.

Palestine had had a postoffice since 1836. In 1879 there were three stores there and a gristmill run by water power. Dr. F. M. Pearman was PM. Atwood had had a PO since 1864 when Ira Hovey was PM. J.A.Rovenstine was PM in 1879. Oak Ridge PO was established in 1877. John Johnson PM. The office at Etna Green was established about 18540swego dates to 1840 and Leesburg to Webster 1848. Gravelton BP&C Ry PO 1876 David Brumbaugh. Millwod 53 1835

On October 6, 1893 while Cleveland was President W. D. Alleman was appointed postmaster. The official headquarters were then in the corner room of the Moon Block on the southeast corner of Buffalo and Market Streets. So far as convenience was concerned this was a choice location for the office for it was on a direct route between the two depots. The old depot on Union Street was still being used but the new one between Lake and Washington was about to be constructed. A house on Lake Street in which Phil Winters lived had been moved away and things were being prepared for a new depot east of the Lesh Factory. In 1893 the country was passing through a period of depression known later as the Panic of '93. The World's Fair was being held in Chicago about this time.

By Deed Records we find that the
Buna Ry bought lots of Winters, Fermant
+ Morris
Ca 1892
for new depot.

Orville Kilmer Died 8/1962 at Methodist Home.

Dwight Eisenhower died 3/28/69.
Harry Truman D 12-26-72
Lyndon Johnson D 1-22-73

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AGNES JANE DUNCAN, Typist

THE TIGER

1931

Warsaw High School

STUART VAN DYKE, Editor-in-Chief
ROBT. LUCAS, Business Manager

Former Ry Mail clerks who lived in WARSAW, INDIANA

Howard Finley Married Edna Bacon
Jim Helwig
x Charlie Ramsey father of Gladys.
Charlie Stevens
x Robert V Brown

Wallace Coplen
x Jas. Pfleiderer
x Harley Towns
x Joseph S. Irwin
Ralph Grisso

x Roy Kreamer
x Geo. B. McClellan
x Sam ~~Davis~~ Davis
x E. E. Heater
x Abe Wortenberger

Justin Brunner
Leomer Murphy still on 12/65
x Jerry Hoagland
V. C. Doran
x Arthur W Dennis

Richard Bonnell
Fred Stookey
Melville Gross
x Frank Fear
Earl Shinn

Charlie Balliett
Harry Eberman
WR Ferguson
Floyd Antonides
Earl Sulzer

x Calvin Whitehead
x Joe Irwin
x I Knew these t.

Fred
About 1967 Took mail cars off of the trains!
Shortly thereafter lost his job of putting mail on the trains
Worked in Lincoln to back mail.

Mary Bonnet the baby
died 1954
Still born

1954
1931
23
18
51

List furnished by Joe Irwin Fall of 65.

COUNTY POSTOFFICES

In the days of the horse and buggy a few miles of travel some months in the year was about all that any farmer desired to make because of the roads being in poor condition. For this reason many small villages flourished during these days. In Scott Township Millwood and East Millwood were villages where postoffices were established. An office was at East Millwood first and then abandoned and later placed at Hammand's store at Old Millwood a mile west of the former office. Valentine Hammand was made postmaster. Three miles north of Millwood was a place called Hepton where there was a sawmill and a store or two. We have no record of a postoffice ever being at this place. In Jefferson Township two villages existed, Gravelton on the B&O railroad and Hastings 3½ miles south of the railroad. An office no doubt was established at Gravelton but we doubt if Hastings ever had any recognition. Gravelton is on the county line. James Hollar used to have a tile mill at Hastings. In Van Buren Township postoffices were at Milford Junction and the one at Milford has been continuous. In Turkey Creek Township Syracuse is the only place where they had an office. This town was known as Crosson's Mills in the early years. In Etna Township the only town is Etna Green where an office was established about 1854 when the place a was founded as a town on the new railroad. In Prairie township a postoffice was established at Galveston in 1882. Harley's Store was located here. The name had to be changed because of a Galveston in Cass county so they took the name Clunette off of a tobacco candy. In the extreme northwest corner of this township Will Anglin had a store and an office was established here and called Angleton. The old building is

Hi Biggs father had a tow line

still there and some of the mail boxes can be seen. In Plain township there were offices at Oswego, Monoquet and Leesburg but Leesburg is the only one that lived. The one at Oswego was at John Pound's store for 25 years and he was postmaster. Pound was a former school teacher. He had a real country store and used to go around barefooted in the summer. Monoquet thrived as a milling center for perhaps twenty years. The postoffice was no doubt at the Harris general store across west from the newspaper office and near the Hall hotel. Monoquet died out and the office must have been taken away about 1862. Two of the postmasters at Monoquet from 1842 to 1853 were Dr. Taylor and a Mr. Lampson. In Tippecanoe township there was an office started at Boydston's Mills which was later moved to North Webster a mile or so north. Then by 1879 it was back to the mill with Ben Yohn as postmaster. The general delivery was in a flour barrel. Later the office was moved back to Webster and it has been continuous. In Harrison township an office was established at the home of James Wooddon and later moved to Palestine where Islam Summy was postmaster. Palestine is an old village having been laid out in 1837. Summy had a flour mill here at this time. About three miles west of Palestine there was a post office at what was called Oak Ridge. This was moved to Mentone later when the Nickle Plate railroad went thru in 1882. A community known as Harrison Center was at the center of this township. Here was a community hall. We have no record of any postoffice ever being at this place. A U. B. church is still in use at this place. In Wayne township postoffices were at Warsaw and in 1890 one was established at Eagle Lake with Fred Beyer as postmaster. Both have been continuous. In Washington township an office was established at Wooster but the name had to be changed

because the Pennsylvania Railroad already had a Wooster, Ohio. The name was changed to Kosciusko. A postoffice was established at Pierceton about 1854 when this place was founded as a railroad town. The town before this had clustered around Ryerson's Mills a mile or so to the south. There may have been an office here in early times. Ryersons Mills were on the old road to Ft. Wayne. In Franklin Township offices were established at Sevastopol, which is about the center of the township, and at Beaver Dam which is three miles to the south. Sevastopol was a thriving village with dry good stores, grocery stores, a hotel, drug stores, two doctors, blacksmith shop and a hotel. The postoffice was started here in 1857 at the home of William Dunlap somewhat west of the village. Then it was moved to the store of A. J. Whittenberger. Later postmasters at Sevastopol were Dr. A. M. Towl, C. R. Grubbs, Dr. Towl again, and then H. C. Riner in 1879. This village was founded by George White, John Tucker and John Mollenhour in 1856. The postoffice at Beaver Dam was at the house of Mr. Regenos. There was a schoolhouse and church here and a store or two. Perry Smith taught school here one winter. In Seward township an office was established at Burket about 1882 and it has been continuous. There might have been an office at Yellow Creek Lake but we have no record of it.

In Clay Township there were postoffices at Claypool and Packerton. The office at Claypool was established in 1840 at the home of Joshua Caldwell. When Claypool grew the office was placed in the store of A. J. Wertenberger in 1879. Postmasters at Claypool before 1879 were H. L. Farmer, Sarah Jamison, Phillip Rhoades and John Skinner. Reuben Beigh was a postmaster of the 1870's.

Twpory. 3-8-vv — Chester Twp.

A postoffice in Monroe County back in the 50's was called Farmers. It was probably about where Monroe Center is today. There never has been ~~an~~ a town or village in Monroe Township unless we consider the northeast ~~part~~ town of Packerton. ~~In Jackson Township there~~ An office was established at the home of Hiram Ingram Stevens in Monroe Township perhaps back in the 1850's. Before the Ry was built Stevens used to haul freight from Fort Wayne for the stores in Warsaw and other towns along the line. George Moore followed Stevens as postmaster and then F. P. Sellers was given the place in 1861. In Jackson Township there were post-offices ~~at Kinsie and~~ at Dodgertown before Sidney was founded. The Koontzes lived in this vicinity. Sidney was founded when the railroad went thru about 1880. A corner of Packerton is in Jackson Township. This town used to be a busy trading center. It was named after John Packer who had a sawmill at Packerton. The map for 1879 shows a schoolhouse and church at Packerton before the railroad was built. Koontzs had a cheese factory at Dodgertown on the creek north of Kinzie.

PO H & S Stevens the Geo Moore & 1861 F P Sellers. Discontinued 1862

1839 Home Jesse Kyler. Then Jacob K. Held it 6 yrs. Then abandoned.

Kyler at Dodgertown

Neither PO at Kinsie in 1880's.

PO 1876 1916

And so we conclude our article on county postoffices. When the new century rolled around many of these places were waning and today some of them are ghost towns. As we pass thru them now we can scarcely realize that seventy five years ago they were busy trading centers and alive with people. Good roads and automobiles have changed the habits of people and now they hurry on to the larger trading centers. Only a church remains in some of these t villages to keep the place alive. Oswego and Palestine will perhaps always be alive and growing because of the lakes nearby.

nothing at Swartzope — the old store & old brick &c.
nothing at B.D.
old Cut Ry.
no Town at Kinsie or Dodgertown

Hepton gone
store at Hastings & Chamberlin
Onion gone
mosquito

COUNTY POSTOFFICES

In 1862 18 PO's in County.

From the old atlas of 1879 we find reference to several postoffices that were scattered about the county in the days of the Civil War and before. An office was established at Pierceton in 1854 when this town was a new town on the new railroad. O. P. Smith was the first postmaster. He was followed by Dr. William Hays, Dr. Banta, Mr. Skinner, Mr. Binkley, Mr. Getty, Mr. Ruth, Mr. Hays again, Mr. Justice and Mr. D.H.Connell who was ~~iiin~~ in 1879. Pierceton grew and the office has been continuous thru the years. In Monroe Township there was a postoffice established at the home of Hiram Ingram Stevens probably in the 1850's. George Moore followed him and in 1861 F.P.Sellers was in. This office was abandoned in 1862. This may have been the old office called Farmers. In Jackson Township Jesse Kyler was appointed postmaster in 1839. He was succeeded by his son Jacob who had the office at his house until it was discontinued about 1862. No name is given for this office. An office was established at Claypool in 1840 at the home of Joshua Caldwell. Claypool, however, as it is now was not founded until 1873. Caldwell was succeeded by H. L. Farmer, Sarah Jamison, Phillip Rhoades, and John Skinner. ~~and~~ The office was abolished in 1865. When Claypool was started in 1873 the office was revived and Reuben Beigh was made postmaster. In 1879 the postmaster was A. J. Whittenberger. He had it at his store. In Franklin Township an office was established in 1844 at the home of Samuel Rickle who was postmaster for several years. They called the place Beaver Dam. Later postmasters here were Jonathan Weaver, Mahlon Middleton, Nathan Hazenbroo and Jonas Leininger. There was quite a little town there at one

County Postoffices

time and a schoolhouse on the corner. Perry Smith taught school at Beaver Dam one winter. The postoffice at this place was discontinued. ~~and~~ Beaver Dam mail was hauled out of Warsaw. Now it is on a route out of one of the nearby towns. At Sevastopol an office was started in 1857 with the office at the home of William Dunlap just west of the village. Then it was moved ~~the~~ to the store of A.J. Whittenberger. Later postmasters ~~here~~ at Sevastopol were Dr. A. M. Towl, C. R. Grubbs, Dr. Towl again, and ~~then~~ in 1879 H. C. Riner. This office was also a star route out of Warsaw until it was discontinued. Sevastopol was founded by the Tuckers in the 1870's. It, too, was a thriving little village with a hotel, blacksmith shop, several stores and was the home of Dr. Towl one of the oldtime doctors that used to ride horseback. There was no Mentone or Burket until the Nickle Plate railroad went thru in 1882. In 1836 an office was established at the home of James Woodden and after some years this was moved to Palestine and Islam Summy became postmaster. Palestine is about as old as any community in Kosciusko County ~~he~~ having been laid out by Islam Summy back in ~~the 1840's~~ 1837. A mill has been there for many years since 1838. It was a busy place in the days of the 1870's and had saloons, drug stores, a hotel and blacksmith shop. It was put on a star route out of Warsaw. The office there was discontinued about the time that John Wainwright had a store there in 1900. Mr. ~~Barfolt~~ Meredith ~~from Warsaw~~ used to haul the mail and passengers from the Warsaw postoffice. ~~It~~ His coach was called the Beaver Dam hack. When the Nickle Plate road went thru much of Palestine moved to the new town of Burket. A postoffice was established at Burket. This grew to be a very good trading place. The postoffice has been continuous.

23-75

Northern Part of the County

(D 1857)

In 1853 Levi Kehler was appointed the first postmaster at Etna Green. In Section 4 in Plain Township John B. Chapman was made postmaster about 1833 and later the office was moved to Leesburg and Jacob Rannells was appointed. About 1840 Ezekiel French was made the first postmaster at Oswego. There must have been a postoffice at Monoquet in the 1840s but we have no record of it. At this time Monoquet was a village of 150 people or so and our first newspaper was published there about 1846. John Pound was postmaster at Oswego for ~~many~~ 25 years and had the office at his ~~st~~ store. His was a true country store and weather permitting the proprietor went bare footed in 25 years. In 1848 a postoffice was started at Boydston's Mills with T. G. Boydston as postmaster. It is said the general delivery was kept in a flour barrel. This office was moved to North Webster and then back to the mill again with Benjamin Yohn as postmaster in 1879. At Syracuse an office was started in 1837 when the place was known as Crosson's Mills. Oliver Cromwell, but not the one from England, was postmaster there at one time. At Milford an office was started in 1836 with Judge Perine the first postmaster. Milford was called Perinesville. In Jefferson township an office was started at Gravelton in 1876 with Levi Miller as the first postmaster. At Millwood the first postoffice dates back to 1853 with J. D. Koffel in charge. The office was discontinued for a while and then started again one mile west of the former location with Valentine Hammam as postmaster. Hamman had a store at Millwood and used to do surveying. They had Millwood and East Millwood. This just about completes the list of postoffices before 1879. It is likely that offices were started at Dodgertown 1876, Kinzie, Wooster, and maybe in other places but they were short lived. H H Hooker, Oswego 1917. PO at Harlan's Store Annette 1882. Had to change name from Galveston to ~~the~~ something else. Annette taken from Kosciusko County. See Hoover Dispatch 1865 (Atwood)

Monoquet

Monoquet is the site of an old Indian village described in the Atlas for 1879 by Metcalf Beck who saw the village in 1835-6. About 1842 Harris Brothers built a dam here and cut a mill race. On the race was erected a tannery, flour mill, saw mill and woolen mills. Farmers for miles around brought their grain to this mill to be ground. From 1843 to 1852 Monoquet was a florishing village as told by J. W. Armstrong in his History of Plain Township. He lived in Monoquet as a boy. On the north and south street lived Mr. Miller, the miller for Harris & Co. Then came Mr. Duncan the blacksmith, Mr. Hinks, the shoemaker, Ingerhams, Rev. Sadd, the Underwoods, Andrew P. Koontz, James Hall and others. Dr. Taylor was the postmaster and later Mr. Lampson. Nelson Watts, and John & Albert Bass lived there. Hall's Hotel stood just north ~~eg~~ of the Harris Store. Opposite to the east from the Harris general store was the Republican office where in 1845 our first paper was published. Charles Murray was the editor and William Stancliff was foreman of the printery. It was a Whig paper and how! A postoffice must have been in this village at least until after most of Monoquet had moved either to Warsaw or Leesburg and it is likely that when several postoffices were abandoned in this county in 1862 that Monoquet might have been one of them. The mill~~s~~ flour there burned down and Shulls ~~rebuilt~~ built a new one on the old site in 1868. They continued in business here until 1898 when the business no longer paid and the buildings were torn down. The Republican was issued by Murray about a year when he sold to Andy Bair and Peter L. Runyan and they moved the office to Warsaw into a frame building at the southwest corner of Market and Buffalo Streets. Reub Williams and John Nye were typesetters.

23-77

The Tale of a Dog or 4000 miles on a gallon.

By Geo. A. Nye 1928.

Thirty years or so ago there was a stray dog that loafed around the front door of the postoffice which then was in the third room south of the State Bank. Sofar as is officially known this dog had no pedigree. In fact not many dogs around town at that time did have any pedigree unless we except two rabbit hounds owned by Amy Collins and which were kept just opposite Bob Shaw's sawmill. But for the uses of this story the dog did not need any pedigree, for, had he had one, in all probability he would have lost it wholly or in part. The story will be the same had he had a pedigree reaching back to the Norman Conquest of 1066.

Bob Nelson, Roy Bartol, Charles Bentley and others about the postoffice at that time became much annoyed by the continual presence of this stray dog which seemed to answer to no particular name and seemed to have no master. Always in the way, continually lying aroud in the lobby and never of any account to the proper functioning of Uncle Sam's mail service the dog was looked upon as being superfluous with sort of a de bonus non status. Some thought perhaps that he was A.W.O.L. and so the postoffice force decided to contribute all they could towards making him completely S.O.L. The writer, a street gamin of the 90's, long familiar with the town through riding with John Phillips on his delivery wagon, was delegated to forage a large empty tin huckleberry can from the rear of Bill Jackman's restaurant opposite south from the courthouse. Another devotee of Renier & Carteaux's meat market, Clarence Davis, was sent over to Foster's Drug Store to buy a liberal quantity of fireworks. Given these two postulates and one stray dog the reader can well imagine how the three quantities were combined to make one perfect and immaculate whole.

To be sure the dog could not well imagine what was going to take place nor could he summarize his connection at once, but in due season what he had seen thru a glass darkly became an impelling reality. He withstood the ordeal without any anesthetic.

The dog was started north on Buffalo Street regardless of the fact that the street ends abruptly at Center Lake. The end of the street was at that time at the ice cream and pop emporium of one George Ihinger. Now the writer has seen Kelly Drake's dray team of gray horses dash down a cobble stone alley at the sounding of Lesh's fire whistle; he has seen on special occasions Clark Holbrook driving a mule team hitched to a transfer wagon make many a daredevil dash with the mail between depots; he has seen a run-a-way team hitched to a farm wagon rush panic stricken through the main streets of our fair city; but all these were as mere ripples on the water when compared to the whirlwind rush of this dog when he was turned loose with the can and the roaring firecrackers tied to his tail. Some men in front of Marshall & Kingery's dry goods store almost fell over when the first fire cracker exploded. Jerome Kern over in front of Bill Carroll's saloon came to a position of rigid attention thinking it the second firing on Fort Sumpter. Isreal Brady with his characteristic bombasity hollered "Head the steer". Perry Baker sought shelter in Ed Curry's barbershop under the Moon Block. When the dog passed Phillipson's store it sounded as though a mounted machine gun was in heated action. At the crossing in front of the Globe the can caught on a woman's trailing dress upsetting her in the mud and otherwise inconveniencing her street composure. The can kept on going. Another bound landed the unfortunate creature in front of I.D.Webb's drug store and here a company of citizens rushed out thinking primarily of bank robbers and secondarily of a free-for-all dog fight. Now it so happened that in front of this store some spirits of turpentine had been accidently spilled on the board walk. The dog unable to gauge his ballistic con-

stant and not being clear as to his aiming point skidded into this turpentine in a present arms position. not being cognizant, of course, of the irritating nature of this fluid oleoresin.

My dear reader the remainder of this dog story is one of aviation. Two more firecrackers exploded simultaneously; the can struck several high cobble-stones; several howling dogs attempted to join the procession and our hero leader took to the air qe quod esse futurum. As the dog passed the bowling alle alley of Charlie Rigdon just north of the public square and sailed on towards the palatial home of our late esteemed fellow-citizen John D. Widaman he was striking terra firma at consecutive intervals approximating four rods and three links. The only thing that was real close to him was the vacuum that he was creating as he skyrocketed towards the foot of Buffalo street. No other dog at this time was within gunshot and citizens on bicycles were no closer than Shane's corner. To a distant observer say on the Planet Venus the route of the dog must have appearedto be that of a new comet having a positive proper motion as it neared perihelion. His azimuth and right ascension were rapidly varying quantities. The dog's outcry, the noise of the can touching various things in the tree tops and the noise of the fireworks were now audible to Jeff La Follet and Cal Weiss oldtimers at the water works. They hurried out expecting to see a fire run headed by Perry Brown and his white bull dog Mark. Allan Widaman and Doc Goodwin hurried out thinking that a belling of some kind was going on at Judge Haymond's corner. Miss Lou was all upset.

There was no grass growing on the dog's trail as he neared the cottage hom home of Sally Thomas. Here his path was blocked by a hugh mud puddle in the street and the dog veered his course enough that the can struck a tree and at the same time two more gianyt firecrackers exploded. The now superfrightened canine with one gigantic effort , with one truly Herculean bound, left the terra firma, took to the air, and went soaring over Godman's Ice Cream Factory

in a series of catenary curves taking a general direction of three points west of due north. Frank Gilworth & Cal Stout who happened to be in the roof garden looking upward thought the dog in his aerial flight was a premature appearance of Encke's comet. Alighting on the west shore of Center Lake the dog made several more leaps and passed the home of Ike Blosser doing a good fifty. He cleared the stone arch for four feet in the air and three sheets in the wind. Up over the McElroy Hills he soared touching here and there a few high spots. Down over the hills he disappeared still frantically headed for the Canadian Border and the land of the Mid-night sun. Next day reports came from the north saying that a stray dog passed that way far exceeding the speed limit, headed for the Straits of Mackanac and the Sault Ste. ~~Mr~~ Marie. Wheter he ever reached the boundaries of Manitoba and sailed on into the arctic regions beyond the home of the esquimaux will always be a matter of conjecture. At any rate his hurried hegira was the most unique, the most thrilling and the most animated and the most complete exodus that had taken place in our fair city for many a day. Suffice it to say that the dog was never seen again around the postoffice nor were the clerk's ever bother ed by any of his relatives or close acquaintances so complete was his farewell journey to the great unknown.

Postoffice
1908-9

Bob Nelson Pm Wm E Ripple Asst.
Clerks – Roy Bartol – Carey Brennemann – Fred Goskert
City Carriers – Russell Butler Clark Holbrook Orville Kilmer
R F D. Carriers – Comstock – James – Justin – Cook – 19 8-62
E E James – Durbin.
Drove Horses or used motor cycle.

Somebody said —
Three years wives are worse than

made up faces
heated up arguments
charged up bills
& fed up altogether

J J Morris in Early Times (90) says 1st Post office in this County was at Chapman's cabin w of Leesburg. See Reading in Early History article of 1874 by Morris

Leo Foster next to be rural mail carrier for
Mt-past of Circuity. 600 a year

Times Union
8/31/62
50 yrs ago.

1912 Rural carriers raised 100 $.
24 mi Routes were paying 1000 but to be 1100.

Chas. R. Taylor
Milo H James.
Milton S Zimmer
Burke C. Cook (motorcycle)

Elmer James
Basil Clustin
Frank Welch.

Fred Gilbert Clark. to get 100 more
Clark Holbrook carrier do.

I knew all but Mr. Welch.

Sol C Dickey Pres nomina 1908.